



The FLASH!

October 2015

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



Best in Show: *Mask and Pearls* - By John Lehman

Mask and Pearls was an image created for two projects--Art Deco and The Nude Obscura Project. I am fascinated with the vintage look of the 1920's and 1930's, so I have set about to create images in the same styles, but with a modern flare. Most of these images are being created with professional models, as is this one. The Nude Obscura Project is over 6 years long now and has over 35 models represented, many amateurs, none of whom are identifiable in the images.

In this case the image was shot in my home studio using one studio flash in a fairly small softbox with an egg crate grid on it. It was placed above the model and slightly to camera left so it shoots down on her from above. The image was shot in color, then converted to B&W using Topaz B&W effects placed on a separate layer. I then back off the opacity of that B&W layer to bring back hints of the color to create a hand tinted look like one might find in an early image.

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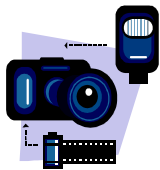


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Upcoming Club Activities

October 24 – People Photography Shoot at our regular meeting place, the West Plano Presbyterian Church. See below for details.

October 31 – Polo at Prestonwood Polo Club. This event provides great opportunities for action photography as well as photojournalism. The owner will reserve a box with 24 seats for PPC, first come first served basis. (Others can still go but won't be fit in the box.) The gates open at 2pm. Polo match start at 3pm and goes till 6 or 7 pm. It is a charity event with additional activities, Halloween themed with trunk or treat, pony rides, petting zoo, etc. More info can be found here www.prestonwoodpolo.com. The event may have 10USD entry fees. (We are working to confirm this). If you are planning to attend or have questions, please send an email to activity@planophotographyclub.com, so that the club may get an accurate count of those attending.

November 14 – Hagerman Wildlife Refuge We'll meet at the refuge early on Saturday, November 14 in hopes of being able to photograph Snow Geese and Ross Geese and other shore birds that will be migrating through the refuge. The new Butterfly Garden and the Native Plant Garden should also have some butterflies and hummers. At 10 a.m. Dr. Wayne Meyer, Associate Professor of Biology at Austin College, will give a talk on identifying sparrows and the club is invited to attend. For those who would like to do lunch in Sherman, Cracker Barrel and Texas Roadhouse on Highway 75 are good options

November 16 – January 19 – Plano Centre Exhibit Prints may be framed, canvas-wrapped, or metallic. Minimum image size: 8" x 10," Minimum outer dimensions of frame or mount: 11" x 14". Maximum outer dimensions of frame or mount: 24" x 36". Back of the print must be wired.

November 19 – Snapshot! James Stover - Night Photography in preparation for the Dallas Skyline shoot.

November 21 - Dallas Skyline Night Photography A fun evening of night shooting of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge and the Dallas evening skyline. We will park and pick a spot on the west side of the Trinity River near or on the old bridge made into a park, to take pictures from. I would advise getting there early, about an hour before sunset to insure a parking spot and to have time to set up. We will take pictures of the Dallas Skyline through sunset and into the evening. Afterwards we will meet at one of the restaurants close by. Attend the Snapshot! presentation November 19 to prepare for the shoot.

December 12 – Holiday Party

April 2016 – Caddo Lake Overnight stay

October - November 2016 – Fall Color trip to Arkansas or Oklahoma - We are in the planning stages of a trip to see fall colors next year. An interest has been expressed on a return trip to the Buffalo River National Park in Arkansas in the latter part of October 2016. Or consideration is being given to Beaver's Bend State Park near Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Please e-mail activities@planophotographyclub.com with '2016 Fall Colors' in the subject line and let us know if you are interested.

Other activities which may be planned through this year include:

- Greek Festival - Dallas festival is on Sep 25-27th <http://www.greekfestivalofdallas.com>
- Dallas Arboretum Pumpkin Patch season from Sep 19-Nov 25th
- Frontier Flight Museum (Love Field): <http://www.flightmuseum.com/>
- Cavanaugh Flight Museum (Addison): <http://www.cavanaughflightmuseum.com>
- Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary, McKinney
- Fort Worth Water Gardens
- Fort Worth Stockyards <http://www.fortworthstockyards.org>



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Guest Speaker – *The Developing Landscape* – Elizabeth Mellott

Elizabeth Mellott was born in Pullman, Washington. Her family moved thirteen times before settling in Keller, Texas. At 19, she moved to New York City for a short time, studying photography and fashion design at the Fashion Institute of Technology, before moving back to Texas. She received a Master's of Fine Art in Photography from the University of North Texas. Months after completing a MFA, Elizabeth began a full-time teaching position at Collin College. She teaches darkroom photography, alternative photography, artist's bookbinding, landscape photography and history of photography.

As an artist, Elizabeth incorporates a mix of mediums, crossing boundaries seamlessly. The majority of her work is alternative and sculptural, with an emphasis on photography. The concept and viewer's experience are paramount to her, allowing materials and structure to serve these mixed media objects. She has exhibited and spoken internationally and has artwork in collections including the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, Harry Ransom Center and the Center for Creative Photography.

The year 1839 marked the announcement of photography to the world. One year later major exploration of the American West began. The camera, as a valuable tool, merged seamlessly with this exploration. Here the tradition of American landscape photography began. As the land changed, the American concept of the land changed as well, deeply etching the evolution of opinions in silver gelatin and color prints. This presentation will begin examining the history of the American landscape photography and will end with contemporary approaches in landscape photography.

People Photo Shoot Training Session

All of us have probably been asked (begged, prodded, cajoled) to photograph family events, portraits, etc. This PPC workshop is designed to help you do that successfully. It replaces the model shoots done in the past. The attendance will be limited to 30 members so that we can successfully have enough time together.

The morning session (10-12) will focus on training and education. The afternoon session (1-3) will provide opportunities to shoot a variety of family oriented images, including sports/action (at least one parkour athlete will be available to photograph), youth portraits, pets and opportunities to photograph each other. You are welcome to bring members of your family, pets, etc. to the afternoon session for help in photographing them.

Agenda for the day:

Morning 10-12:

1. Setting up your camera to shoot people—basic camera handling, preferred settings for various types of people images, etc.--Lois Lehman
2. Posing individuals, couples and family groups--James Edward, professional photographer and member of our club.
3. Lighting for indoor and outdoor shots using natural light, your flash, and reflectors—John Lehman

Lunch and informal sharing together at the church 12-1

Afternoon 1-3:

- Shooting inside and outside the church, with options to go to the green belt near Schimelpfenig Library, weather permitting. Mentors will be available to help you with your shooting.
- Options for things to shoot: Action (parkour athlete), youth portraits (teen model will be present), pets (bring your own), each other and/or your children, or grandchildren.

What to bring: Bring your camera, flash, and any reflectors or light modifiers you'd like help with mastering. It will dramatically improve your images if you bring/purchase a way to detach your strobe from your camera. Some of the newer cameras have built in infrared and/or radio control of the system flashes, acquaint yourself with those controls prior to the workshop. If you don't have that, there are cords (3' to 10' or more) for most major camera brands that allow you to shoot automatically off camera. If you get one, you'll find it worth the money. These are available from local camera stores, or at <http://www.flashzebra.com/products.shtml> or other online retailers. To get some great basic instruction on off-camera flash check out: <http://strobist.blogspot.com/>

To sign up for this activity, please send an email to Bud Mallar at training@planophotographyclub.com or to bmallar@sbcglobal.net.



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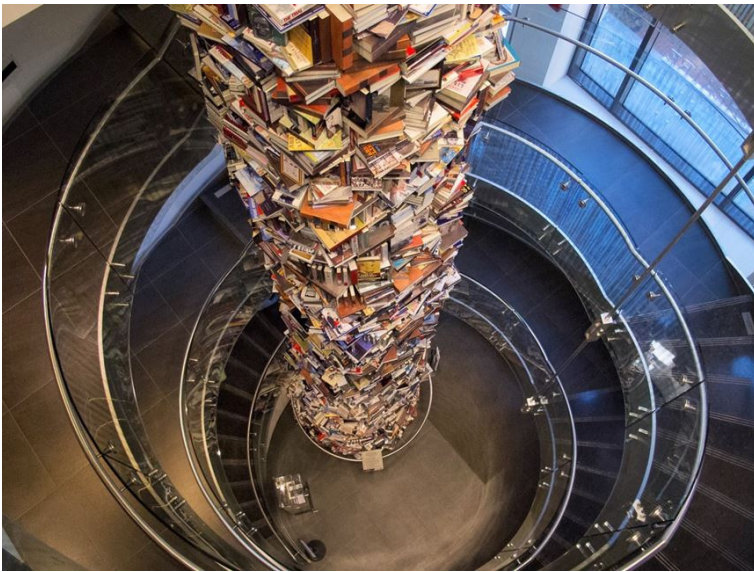
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August's Winning Images – Open

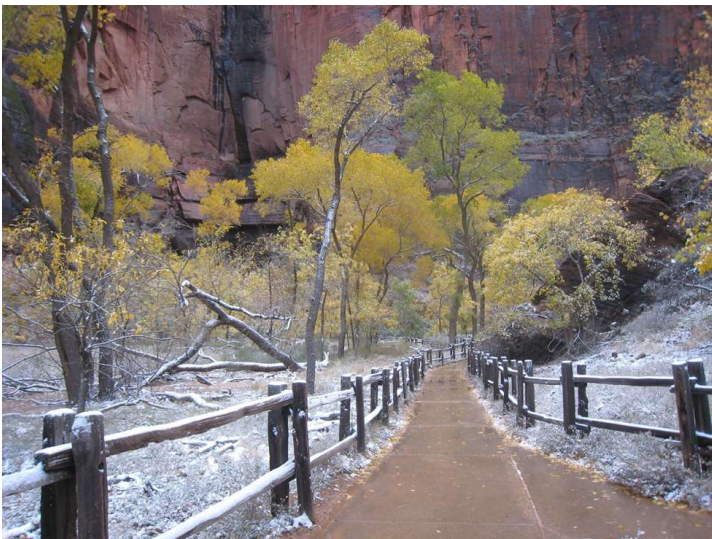
Masters				Advanced			
John Lehman	Mask and Pearls	15	1st, BoS	Linfen Hwang	Please Follow Me	15	1st
Sam Wilson	Sunset Over Alamogordo	14	2nd	Bud Barlow	Evening Walk in Melk Abbey, Austria	14	2nd
Marie Hansen	Sunrise at Oxbow Bend, Grand Teton National Park	13	3rd	James Walsh	Hanging around for the view	13	3rd
Ron Hasty	White Dome Geyser eruption and the Milky Way	12	HM	Carol Barlow	Grand Teton Reflection	12	HM
Marea Downey	Camel thorn trees, dead for nearly 1000 years	12	HM				
Intermediate				Beginners			
James Haynes	Texture	15	1st	Leslie Johnston	Every Book About Lincoln	15	1st
Valerie Johnson	St. Mary Church, High Hill, Texas	14	2nd	Nancy Mack	Sunflowers	14	2nd
Aaron Leshner	52 Harley	13	3rd	Bruce Barlow	Snowy River Walk	13	3rd
Parvin Stiles	Dallas Twilight	12	HM	Jack Hwang	Shielded by the Water Umbrella	12	HM



Leslie Johnston



Nancy Mack



Bruce Barlow



Jack Hwang



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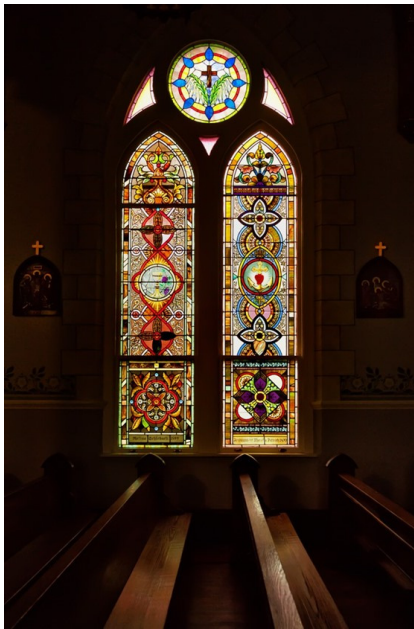




Aaron Leshar



James Haynes



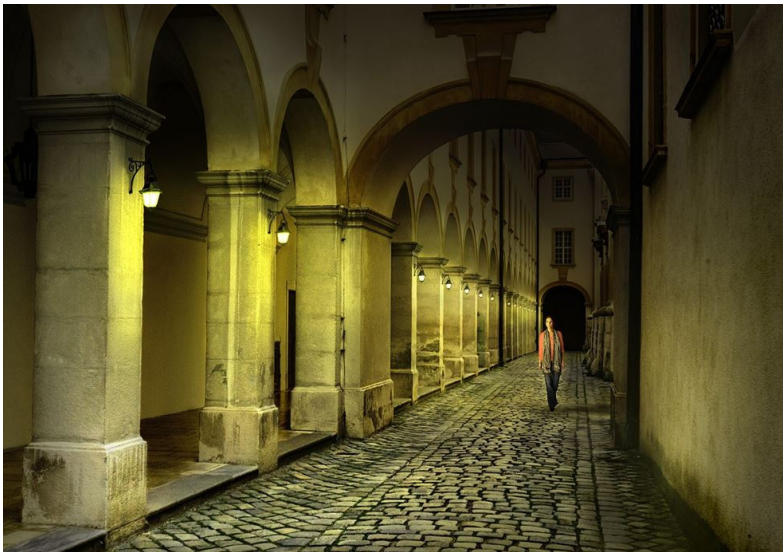
Valerie Johnson



Parvin Stiles



Linfen Hwang



Bud Barlow



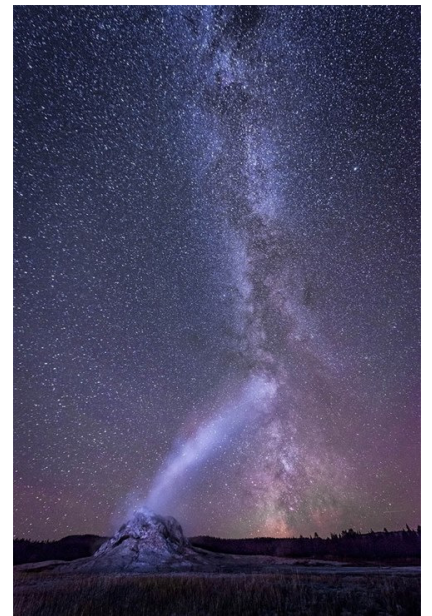
Carol Barlow



James Walsh



Sam Wilson



Ron Hasty



Marie Hansen



Marea Downey



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Competition Themes

October (Print)	Open	February	Open	July	Shallow Depth of Field	January (2017)	Photojournalism
November	Portrait of Character	March (Print)	Monochrome	August	Open	February	Open
December	No Competition	April	Open	September	Shadow Play	March (Print)	Decrepit, Ruined or Broken
January (2016)	Photojournalism	May	Repetition	October (Print)	Open	April	Open
		June	Open	November	People (TBD)		

Competition Standings*

Photographer	Judge's Points	Place Points	Total Points	Photographer	Judge's Points	Place Points	Total Points
Beginners				Intermediate			
Mack, Nancy	50	22	72	Yang, Ming	50	15	65
Johnston, Leslie	45	16	61	Johnson, Valerie	48	10	58
Armstrong, Brenda	43	11	54	Mangum, Joyce	44	11	55
Hwang, Jack	45	7	52	Haynes, James	31	10	41
Lin, Cathy	40	10	50	Carroll, Vincent	37	1	38
Barlow, Bruce	32	4	36	Roldan, Oscar	32	6	38
Conard, Debbie	32	0	32	Blevins, Mary Jean	26	10	36
Ratzlaff, Randy	28	3	31	Warren, Lulu	32	4	36
Griffin, Lori	29	1	30	DeRouen, Robin	24	10	34
Quinn, Stephanie	14	6	20	Zumbar, Bryan	34	0	34
Srinivasan, Amita	13	0	13	Leshner, Aaron	29	3	32
Avellanet, Lois	12	0	12	Davenport, Janet	28	0	28
Duggu, Krishna	8	0	8	Sharp, Leo	27	0	27
Farmer, Denny	7	0	7	Moulder, Retha	26	0	26
				Stiles, Parvin	22	1	23
				Flores, Jesse	21	0	21
				Singh, Kamalpreet	9	0	9
Advanced				Masters			
Barlow, Bud	52	22	74	Downey, Marea	54	21	77
Hwang, Linfen	51	15	66	Hansen, Marie	49	13	63
Edward, James	47	13	60	Lehman, John	49	13	63
Walsh, Jim	48	10	58	Hasty, Ron	49	7	56
Henkle, Charlie	41	10	51	Hasty, Sharlott	51	5	56
Lin, Ron	42	6	48	Petterborg, Larry	50	4	54
Barlow, Carol	43	2	45	Fritsche, Dennis	45	6	51
Morton, Ken	39	1	40	Champlin, Don	43	6	49
Schlesinger, Jerry	38	0	38	Volkmer, Danette	45	1	46
Spencer, Jim	33	0	33	Wilson, Sam	39	7	46
Shannon, Jim	14	3	17	Staxen, Peter	45	0	45
				Grigsby, Linda	43	0	43
				Artiles, Jose	40	1	41
				Carrick, Jennifer	39	0	39
				Lehman, Lois	38	0	38
				Stover, James	37	0	37

*** Annual 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards in each Class based on Total Points. Photographer of the Year is based on Judges' Points. Promotion based on Place Points.**



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President's Message: *A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words*

At its heart, photography, like all art, is about communication. We are all familiar with the phrase, "A picture is worth a thousand words." For successful communication, there have to be at least three elements. You provide two of those elements when you compose and create a photograph. There is a communicator (you), and communication (your photo). The third element, an audience, is often harder to come by. For many photographers, whose photographs never leave their memory card or PC, the only audience is immediate family members. Hanging prints on the wall of your home extends the audience to your visitors. Camera clubs like ours provide a slightly wider audience, as we share photos with each other in our slide shows and contests. For some, though, even that is not sufficient. Several club members regularly publish images to personal websites, photoblogs, or to photo sharing sites such as Flickr, ShutterFly, 500px, or others. Some have created Facebook pages dedicated to photography or publish to their regular Facebook accounts. Even those of us who are not seeking to sell photographs find satisfaction in knowing that an image we created has been viewed and responded to by a large audience including not only family and friends but strangers from around the world.

If you have a personal photo gallery such as those listed above, the club is interested in including a link on our website. We have a small list now but I suspect there are more that could be included. Please let me know and I will add a link to your site!
- Sam Wilson

Plano Photography Club Officers & Volunteers

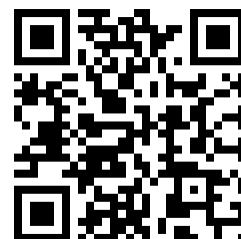
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Activities	Parvin Stiles	activity@planophotographyclub.com
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Treasurer	Peter Staxen	treasurer@planophotographyclub.com
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PSA Representative	Retha Mulder	psa-rep@planophotographyclub.com
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People Photography	John Lehman	modeling@planophotographyclub.com
Calibration Equip	Dennis Frische	calibrate@planophotographyclub.com
Tabletop Equipment	Cindy Vaillancourt	table_top@planophotographyclub.com
Slideshows	Lulu Warren	clubphotos@planophotographyclub.com
Training	Bud Mallar / Don Champlin	training@planophotographyclub.com

About The Club

The club meets at 7 PM the third Thursday of each month (no meeting in December) at West Plano Presbyterian Church 2709 Custer Road, Plano TX. Visitors are welcome! Officers meet at 7 PM on the first Thursday of each month (except December) at our regular meeting location. 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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www.planophotographyclub.com



JAMES T STOVER

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EDITOR

