

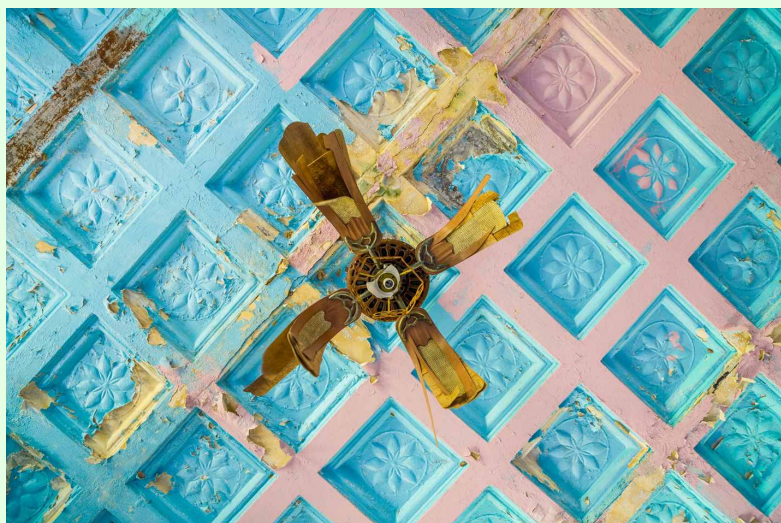


# The FLASH!

July 2019 Vol. 36, No. 3

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

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



## Inside This Issue

Best in Show	1
Activities	2
Guest Speakers	2
Meeting Date Changed	2
GSCCC Convention	3
Winning Images from Competition	4
Upcoming Field Trips	8
PSA History	9
Mowdy Wild Mustang Ranch	10
Competition Topics	11
Competition Standings	11
President's Message	12
About the Club	12

### Best In Show: *Battered Ceiling Fan* By Dennis Fritsche

This photograph was made in 2018 in a very interesting abandoned house. The house is made of brick fired by the owner and concrete. Walls are 18 inch thick and these ceiling tiles are molded concrete set in steel. Each room has a different pattern of tiles. The current owner has visions of restoring the home as a historic site. I think it is tearing itself apart under its own weight. For now, it offers many opportunities to explore the details of the 1930's era house. Sorry, I am not allowed to reveal its location.

I had photographed a ceiling fan in another room from different angles, including straight up. When I entered this room, the light was better, the colors stunning, and the fan was a better example than in the other room. The equipment was a Nikon D850 with a Zeiss 21mm lens on a Really Right Stuff tripod with an Arca Swiss D4 head. To encompass the entire ceiling, I needed to be as close to the floor as possible. The RRS tripod does not have a center column and I positioned it almost flat on the floor. The D850 has a flip out back LCD which allowed me to align the shot from a comfortable position. The Arca Swiss D4 allows precise adjustments with a geared design, further facilitating the shot. The exposure was 1.3 seconds at f/8 at ISO 64. Focus was manual and on the light socket. I had plenty of depth of field given the aperture and distance from the focal point.

Post processing was done in Lightroom. The original image was very flat since there was no direct light on the ceiling. Setting the white and black points increased the contrast and saturation. A little more Vibrance and Saturation made the colors pop without going overboard.

## Upcoming Club Activities / Photo Ops

Contact: [activity@planophotographyclub.com](mailto:activity@planophotographyclub.com)

**August 6, 2019 11:00AM - 12:30PM – Macro / Close Up** – Photography at Dolly Python Vintage Store

**Oct 5, 2019 – Kelby Photo Walk** – Location TBD

**Oct 12, 2019 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM – Blackland Prairie Raptor Center** – 1625 Brockdale Park Road, Lucas TX 75002. Raptor Photo Day is a great opportunity to experience taking photographs of our education ambassadors in a natural setting. They set up perching throughout the park and let photographers take pictures of the birds with different backgrounds and lighting. We work to make your shots beautiful. For all ages and photography experience.

**November 15 – November 17, 2019 – Beavers Bend** – See page 8 for details.

**December 7, 2019 – Cedar Hill State Park** – See page 8 for details.

**December 7, 2019 – Christmas Party** – Details to follow.

For details and to sign up for these and other events go to the Members Only web-site:

<https://plano.photoclubservices.com/>, login, then navigate to Organization > Calendar and click on the event.

## Guest Speakers – Photography — No Travel Required - Alan Daniel

We all like to travel and create images of new and interesting subjects. But when you can't get away for a long-distance photo adventure, it's nice to know there is plenty to photograph within an hour of Plano. Alan will share a few of his favorite images from locations that range from the Red River to the Trinity. The program will provide you with a number of local destinations and a wide variety of photographic subjects. The next time you are wanting to get out and use that camera, remember, no need to call a travel agent, you are only a few minutes from your next location shoot.

## Future PPC Programs

August	Irwin Lightstone	Why bother with black & white when color is so realistic, so beautiful?
September	Lois Lehman	The Volunteer Photographer
January	Sharlott Hasty	

## Club Meeting Date Changes

Because of church commitments, the July meeting will be held August 1<sup>st</sup>. The July contest closes July 25<sup>th</sup>. Project 101 images are due by July 31<sup>st</sup>.





## GSCCC Convention By Alan Daniel

The Gulf States Camera Club Council (GSCCC) annual convention was held over 3 days in early May this year. Plano Photography Club is a member. There were attendees from Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Mississippi, and a great time was had by all. There were over a half dozen great speakers. The convention including presentation and live judging of the monthly projected and print contest winners. End of Year awards were presented to clubs and individuals at the Saturday night banquet. PPC received a Third Place for overall points scored in the Pictorial Color Projected category. PPC also received a number of individual awards that will be presented in our next meeting.

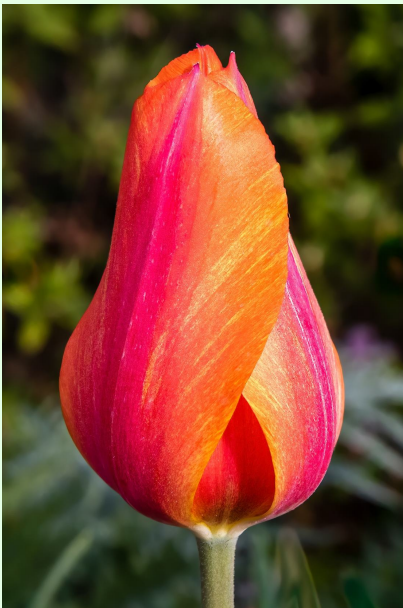
GSCCC also sponsored several photo outings. There was an early morning trip to the Dallas Arboretum. A Mexican dinner at Ozona Grill and Bar that included the nationally renowned Martinez Ballet dancers, followed by a night shoot in downtown Dallas. Saturday's event started with an early morning walking photoshoot in Deep Ellum. Below are a few images from the Photography outings.





## May Winning Images – Breaking The Rule Of Thirds

Masters				Advanced			
Dennis Fritsche	Battered Ceiling Fan	12	1st, BOS	Aaron Leshner	Hanging around	12	1st
Larry Petterborg	Tulip	12	2nd	Nock Wong	The dome inside St. Stephen Basilica, Budapest	12	2nd
James Stover	Stair Steps to Heaven	11	3rd	Alan Daniel	Showing Off	12	3rd
Sam Wilson	Nature's Symmetries	11	HM	Bud Mallar	Wisteria	11	HM
Danette Volkmer	Alnes Lighthouse	11	HM	Cathy Lin	The World trade center Oculus	11	HM
Intermediate				Entry			
Jason Ware	Times Square, or Times Round, Pi not Thirds.	13	1st	Clive Fernando	Clean Bud	13	1st
John Eden	Flyin' High	12	2nd	Diana Watt	Navajo Waters	12	2nd
Bob Peterson	Ice On Black Sand	12	3rd	Sam Lucas	Looking up the Chicago Bean	11	3rd
Retha Moulder	Lighthouse Staircase	11	HM	Elisabeth Shore	Great Gray Owl_ Tetons NP	11	HM
Vincent Carroll	Old Stove	11	HM	Steven Earles	Morning Dew	11	HM



Clive Fernando



Diana Watt



Sam Lucas



Elisabeth Shore







**Steven Earles**



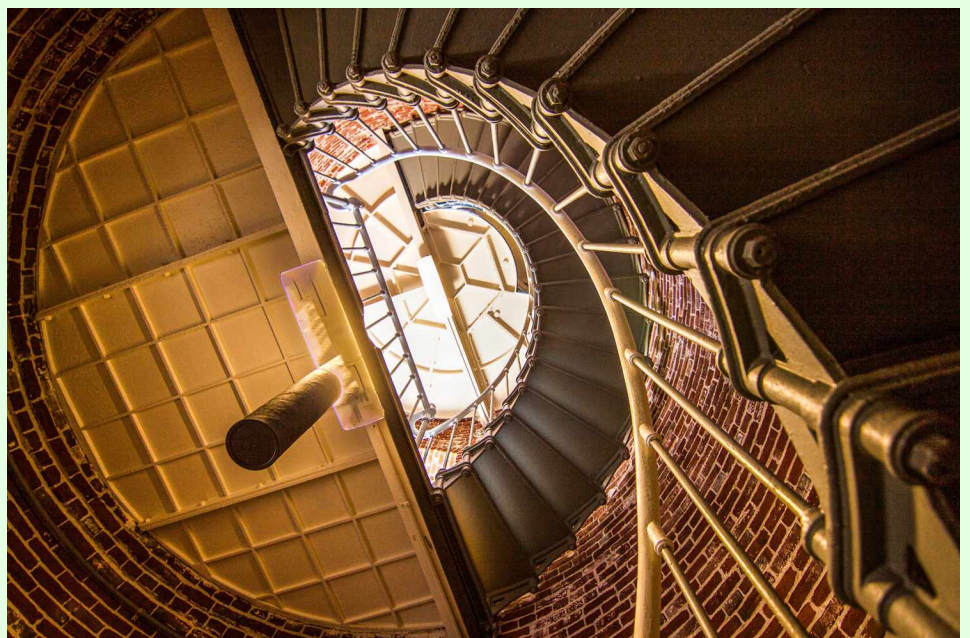
**Jason Ware**



**John Eden**



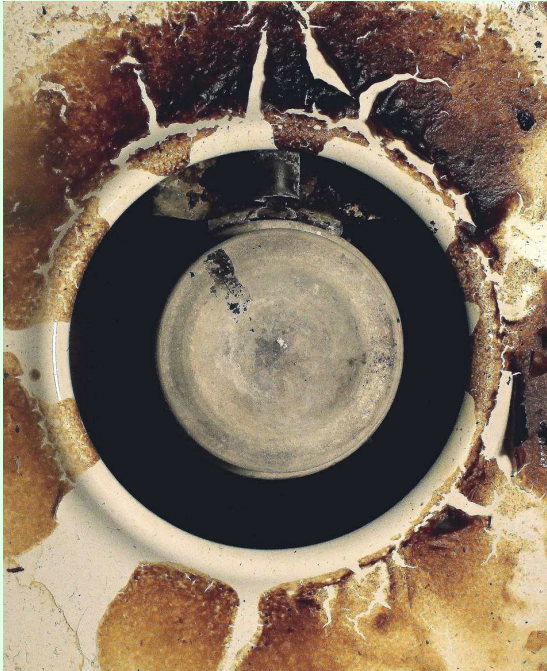
**Bob Peterson**



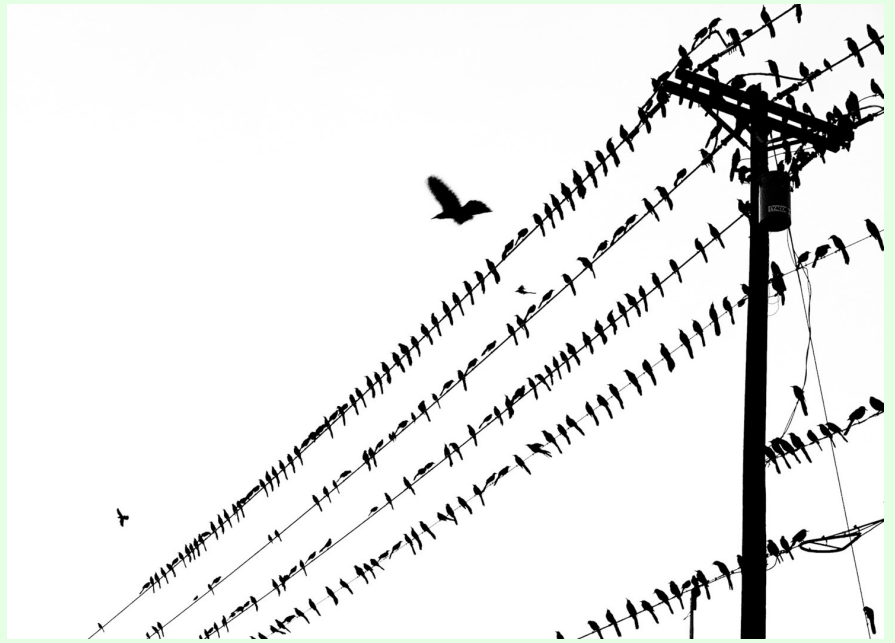
**Retha Moulder**



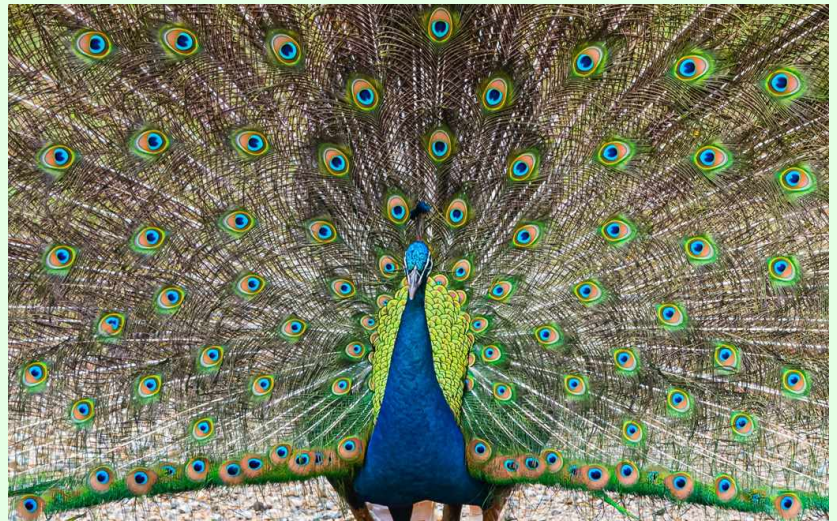




**Vincent Carroll**



**Aaron Lesher**



**Alan Daniel**



**Nock Wong**



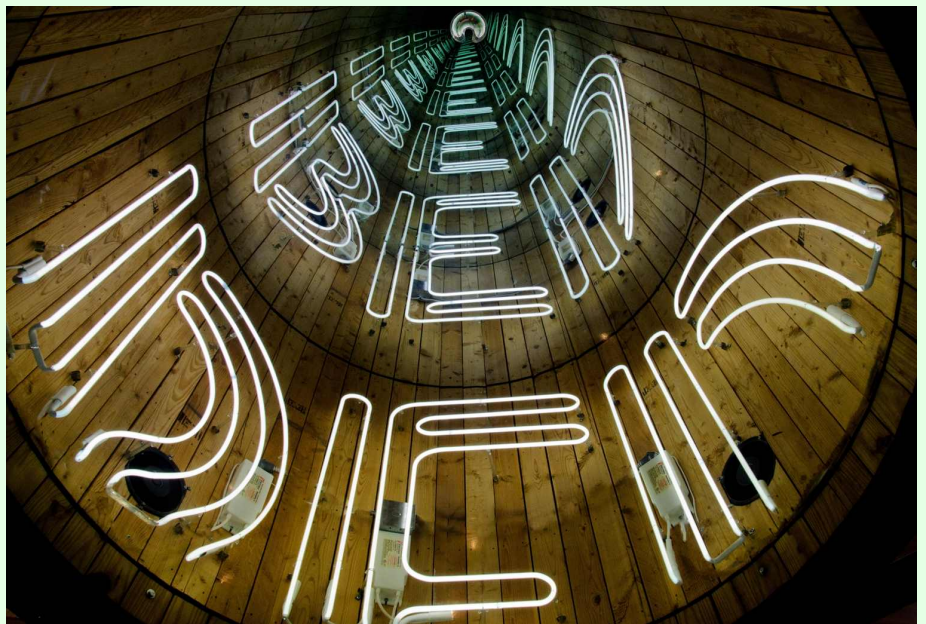
**Bud Mallar**



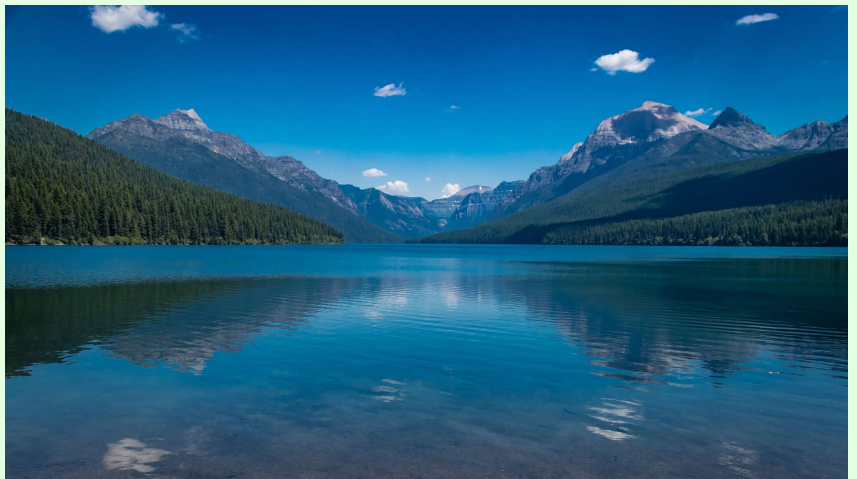




**Cathy Lin**



**James Stover**



**Sam Wilson**



**Larry Petterborg**



**Danette Volkmer**





## Upcoming Field Trips

### Beavers Bend

**When:** Friday, November 15 – Sunday, November 17

**Where:** Beavers Bend State Park and Broken Bow Lake, Oklahoma. 170 miles from Plano, about three hours driving.

**What to see:** Beavers Bend State Park and Broken Bow Lake offer Mountain Fork - a mountain stream, big lake, trees, hiking trails, and a distillery.

**Beavers Bend State Park** located in an idyllic setting among tower pines and hardwoods. The park is a favorite for summer water activities and trout fishing. A constant flow stream fed from the cold water of Broken Bow lake form fishing stream with small waterfalls and rapids. Great photography morning and evening. Trails can take you up wooded hills for grand vistas.

**Broken Bow Lake and Hoochatown State Park** offer views of the hills for sunrise and sunset shots.

**Mountain Fork Park** Travel through Broken Bow and east on 70 for a trip to Mountain Fork Park. If the water is high, you will experience a dramatic flow of water from a dam.

**Talimena Scenic Drive** is north of Broken Bow and travels east and west along ridges with fall color. About an hour from the state park but allow as much time as you wish to drive along the Scenic Drive.

**On the Road:** Stop in Hugo OK to visit the Circus Cemetery.

#### Where to stay:

Make your own reservations:

- Rent a cabin in the state park.
- Camp or RV in the state park
- Beavers Bend Lakewood lodge on the lake.
- There are numerous vacation cabins for rent.
- Hoochatown has cabins and motels.

#### Where to eat:

- Café in the park.
- Hoochatown – I can vouch for Grateful Head Pizza and Abendigo's. This area is growing and there are many more choices than 5 years ago.
- Broken Bow – many with numerous choices.

#### Camera Gear:

- Wide to telephoto.
- Not much wildlife so super long probably not needed.
- Tripod.
- Neutral density filters to slowdown water.
- Polarizing filter to make fall colors pop.

### Cedar Hill State Park

**When:** Saturday, December 7

The state park opens at 7:00. Sunrise is at 7:41 CST.

**Where:** Cedar Hill Area, about 1 hour southwest of Plano.

**What to see:** The Cedar Hill area has several photogenic areas. It is one of the few places that has hills covered in hardwood trees that provide fall color if the timing is right.

**Cedar Hill State Park** located on Joe Pool Lake has several lake access points with good waterscapes. The best views are located to the southwest from the entry. (Turn left after entering the park.) There are hiking trails and a marina as well.

**Penn Farm** is in the state park. There are several old barns, two period houses, and pieces of farm machinery. Good opportunities are architectural studies, closeups of machinery and weathered wood, the spinning windmill (bring neutral density filters), and abstracts.

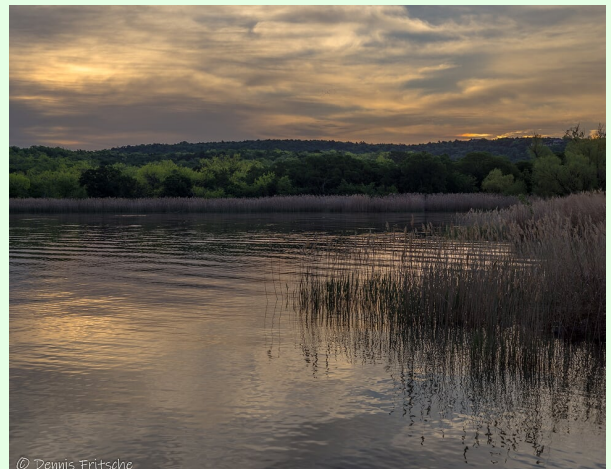
**Cedar Ridge Preserve** is located across the highway from the state park and is operated by Audubon Dallas and Dallas Parks. It offers several miles of hiking trails over hilly terrain. The hike to Cattail Pond is long but worth it.

**Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center** is a wooded area with a nice walking path. Occasional vistas of fall-colored hillside can be found.

**Cedar Hill** has a small old downtown area and is worth a walk about to work off lunch.

**Lunch:** There are a few places to eat in downtown Cedar Hill and many along Highway 67. My favorite in downtown is **Sam's Pizza and Pasta** - locally owned with a large selection of Italian dishes.

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/cedar-hill>



© Dennis Fritzsche



## PSA History Of Photography By Larry Petterborg

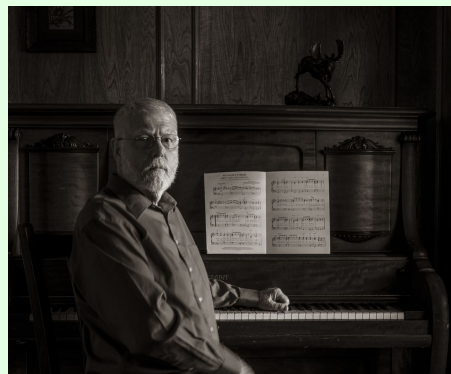
The Photographic Society of America (PSA) is an international organization that provides a broad range of activities and services that help its members get the most out of their photographic pursuits. As a member, you can participate in competitions and earn world-wide recognition, join study groups and participate in on-line classes designed to advance your photographic knowledge and skills. You can also submit your photos for analysis and critique as well as obtain discounts for both hardware and software product purchases. In addition to special access to a Member's Only area on this dynamic and informative website, every member receives the high-quality PSA Journal each month. Go to <https://psa-photo.org/> to learn more about PSA.

Several years ago, I completed the on-line PSA Image Analysis course to learn more about how PSA competition judges look at and evaluate contest images. During the course I was given many photos to study and comment on and then have my analysis and commentary evaluated. I learned how to provide helpful feedback on pictures that points out the strengths of an image and how to possibly improve it. This experience has helped me be a better provider of feedback and contributed to my development of the "Photo Criticism" class I recently offered.

At present, I am taking the PSA History of Photography course. This on-line class is taught by Jon Fishback and is based on Beaumont Newhall's book, The History of Photography (which I found at Half Price Books). There are 16 chapters (16 lessons) in the book and for each chapter I am required to write an essay in response to Fishback's questions (I am just beginning so I've only gotten to chapter 6). For some of the lessons I am also required to produce a photograph. The lessons (book chapters) begin in the early 1800's with the problem of making pictures with the camera lucida and camera obscura. Fishback strongly encourages one to pursue additional sources to compliment any arguments made in the essays. In this way, I am getting far more out of my study than I would be if I were only quickly reading the book and moving. I must spend time researching and thinking (which is exactly what I tried to get my students to do when I was teaching) to write a reasonable response to the essay prompts.

While the essays require some effort, I have found the assigned photographs to be quite challenging. During

the early days of photography, exposure times were extremely long making it nearly impossible to capture anything but the most static objects. For the second lesson I had to make 2 B&W photos that show the difficulty of photographing people on the street (see below). For lesson #3, I had to make a portrait with a minimum 30 second exposure. Rather than ask anyone to sit through such agony, I made selfies and I don't mind saying that I fully understand now why no one smiles in a Daguerreotype (see below). I am looking forward to the remaining 2/3s of the course and the additional challenges to be presented. When I taught human anatomy, I stressed learning by doing (dissection) and this course is certainly about doing. I highly recommend it. If nothing else, you will appreciate how easy photography is today.





## Mowdy Wild Mustang Ranch

May 31<sup>st</sup> through June 2<sup>nd</sup> members of the club photographed horses at the Mowdy Wild Mustang Ranch.





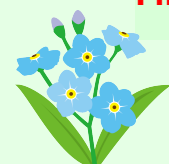
## Upcoming Competition Themes

July	High Key/Low Key	December	No Contest	May	Town or Cityscape	October (Print)	Open
August	Open	January (2020)	Open	June	Open	November	Abstract
September	Texas Historical Sites	February	Downtime	July	Transportation	December	No Contest
October (Print)	B&W or Sepia	March (Print)	Open	August	Open	January (2021)	Open
November	Music	April	No Contest	September	Night	February	Serenity in Nature

## Competition Standings\*

Photographer	Image Points	Place Points	Total Points	Photographer	Image Points	Place Points	Total Points
<b>Entry</b>				<b>Advanced</b>			
Clive Fernando	13	10	23	Aaron Leshner	12	10	22
Diana Watt	12	6	18	Nock Wona	12	6	18
Sam Lucas	11	3	14	Alan Daniel	12	3	15
Elisabeth Shore	11	1	12	Bud Mallar	11	1	12
Steven Earles	11	1	12	Cathy Lin	11	1	12
Craig Rowen	10		10	Carina Johnsson	10		10
Richard Kidner	10		10	Jerry Schlesinger	10		10
Saniav Kaul	10		10	Linfen Hwana	10		10
Siu Wona	10		10	Mark Bernthal	10		10
Janet Yiu	9		9	Michael Farnham	10		10
Sherry Huang	9		9	Nancy Mack	9		9
Perry Buhler	8		8	Wenchi Lee	9		9
<b>Intermediate</b>				<b>Masters</b>			
Jason Ware	13	10	23	Dennis Fritsche	12	11	23
John Eden	12	6	18	Larry Petterbor	12	6	18
Bob Peterson	12	3	15	James Stover	11	3	14
Retha Moulder	11	1	12	Danette Volkmer	11	1	12
Vincent Carroll	11	1	12	Sam Wilson	11	1	12
John Lebeck	11		11	Jose Artiles	11		11
Richard Otto	11		11	Linda Griasby	11		11
Daniel Dailev	10		10	Carol Barlow	10		10
Marv Jean Blevins	10		10	John Lehman	9		9
Randy Ratzlaff	10		10	Lois Lehman	9		9
Cliff McKenzie	9		9				
David Boomstein	9		9				
Earl Snodda	9		9				
Michael Losurdo Jr	8		8				

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





## President's Message: Photography Is A Love Affair With Life

"Photography is a love affair with life" wrote Burk Ussle, an American photojournalist. We enrich that love with every setting and photo we take. We share that love by displaying our passion with others.

What is the one thing we could all do that would dramatically elevate our skill level? Simply, take more photos; experiment with settings and lens. Make a pledge to yourself you will constantly take more photos.

Experiment: Love your zoom? Take a series of pictures with your zoom (why not 50 or 100, it is the digital age after all) and look at what your lens settings were. You will see a preponderance of the settings will fall in a relevant range (say 55mm to 95mm). Now, take a "prime" lens (example, 50mm f/1.8) that comes closest to the relevant range and open it all the way (set the f stop to 1.8) and set your distance to infinity. Now look at the results. Impressed with the results? Now in the back of your mind file the results to be used another day. Maybe action shots in low light?

We have announcements coming up that we believe everyone will want to participate...let's keep the love affair going.

**Cliff McKenzie**

<b>Plano Photography Club Officers &amp; Volunteers</b>		
<b>Title</b>	<b>Officers &amp; Volunteers</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
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1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Pres./Secretary	Suzanne Beasley	<a href="mailto:secretary@planophotographyclub.com">secretary@planophotographyclub.com</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres./Programs	Parvin Stiles	<a href="mailto:programs@planophotographyclub.com">programs@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Activities	Karen Malone/Suzy Beasley	<a href="mailto:activity@planophotographyclub.com">activity@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Treasurer	Michael Losurdo	<a href="mailto:treasurer@planophotographyclub.com">treasurer@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Contest Chair	Alan Daniel	<a href="mailto:contest@planophotographyclub.com">contest@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Membership Chair	Greg Jones	<a href="mailto:membership@planophotographyclub.com">membership@planophotographyclub.com</a>
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GSCCC Representative	Alan Daniel	<a href="mailto:gsccl-rep@planophotographyclub.com">gsccl-rep@planophotographyclub.com</a>
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Contest Slideshows	Alan Daniel	<a href="mailto:contest-slideshow@planophotographyclub.com">contest-slideshow@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Image Critiques	Larry Petterborg	<a href="mailto:lpetterborg@planophotographyclub.com">lpetterborg@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Training	Dennis Fritsche	<a href="mailto:training@planophotographyclub.com">training@planophotographyclub.com</a>

### About The Club

The club meets the third Thursday of each month (no meeting in December) at West Plano Presbyterian Church 2709 Custer Road, Plano TX. Training sessions start at 6:00 PM and the main meeting starts at 7:15 PM. 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 \(PSA\)](#)



**Plano Photography Club The FLASH! – July 2019**  
[www.planophotographyclub.com](http://www.planophotographyclub.com)

**JAMES T STOVER**

12

**EDITOR**

