



The FLASH!

August 2019 Vol. 36, No. 4

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



Inside This Issue

Best in Show	1
Activities	2
GSCCC Winners	3
Winning Images from Competition	4
Guest Speakers	8
Smithsonian.com Contest	8
Rainbow Vomit	9
Deep Ellum Brewery	10
Competition Topics	11
Competition Standings	11
President's Message	12
About the Club	12

Best In Show: Over A Cloudy Manhattan By Jose Artiles

The real title of this image should be "Dumb Luck!" Let me explain: Mary Ann and I fly frequently to NYC but being that Mary Ann is an airline retiree, we never have a choice of seats. Getting a seat, any seat, on a desired flight, can be a bit stressful, but getting a window seat calls for a celebration. Yet, I wasn't too thrilled about sitting by a window on the right side of the plane because a good percentage of the time, the approach to LGA takes the airplane over Queens and Brooklyn which means Manhattan is on the left side. Not to disparage those two boroughs, heck, at one point I lived in Brooklyn, but the reality is that Manhattan is more photogenic

Anyway, if sitting by a window on the right side was less than ideal for my planned photo session, having the right engine occupy a prominent place in my line of sight was, to put it mildly, disappointing. And if that wasn't bad enough, NYC was submerged in a sea of clouds. Yet, miraculously and suddenly, there was a break in the clouds and right below me was the upper part of the World Trade Center building yelling at me to take it's picture. I may be old, but I still have excellent reflexes and instantly shot the photo, which was a good thing because I didn't get a second chance; the plane, as planes tend to do, was moving quite fast and a few minutes after I took the shot, it landed at LGA.

I should end by making note that if, when traveling by plane, I am lucky enough to sit by a window, I always have my camera ready. Once we are in the air I usually (although not always) preset focus, f stop and shutter speed. I let the ISO take care of itself. Nikon D750, Nikkor f 3.5-5.6 28~300 at 28mm (cropped), ISO 2500 f/11 at 1/1250 sec

Upcoming Club Activities / Photo Ops

Contact: activity@planophotographyclub.com

September 21, 2019 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM – Carpe Diem Comics - Costumes On the McKinney Square – You can find this event on Facebook under *Costumes on the Square* or at carpsdiemcomics.com

Oct 5, 2019 5:30 PM to 8:30 PM – Kelby Photo Walk – We will gather at the dancing fountains in Galatyn Plaza near the Eisemann Center in northeast Richardson. The walk will proceed past the Eisemann Center and the Renaissance Hotel. We will then join the Central Trail, a paved path through the Galatyn Woodland Preserve. We will continue on the Spring Creek Trail, also paved, through the Spring Creek Nature Area. We will cross Renner Road and finish up the walk in the modern architecture and sculptures of the Cityline complex. After the walk, we will gather for dinner at a location TBD. See worldwidephotowalk.com. Optional registration on the Kelby website starts August 12th.

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. See bpraptorcenter.org

November 15 – November 17, 2019 – Beavers Bend – Beavers Bend State Park and Broken Bow Lake, Oklahoma. 170 miles from Plano, about three hours driving. See website for details.

December 7, 2019 – Cedar Hill State Park – Cedar Hill Area, Penn Farm, Cedar Ridge Preserve, Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center. See website for details.

December 7, 2019 – Christmas Party – Our Annual Christmas Party will be held in our regular meeting room. Setup is 5:30 PM with dinner at 6. Please bring an appetizer, vegetable or dessert as well as a short slideshow on a Flash drive. Sign up at the November meeting. The club will provide meat, drinks and utensils.

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.

From Dan Leffel: Evan Pike has put together a Japan Fall Color photo tour for November 2020, for a small group of photographers, Evan lives in the US but has lived in Japan for many years, speaks the language well, and is an accomplished professional photographer. PPC member Dan Leffel is inviting PPC members to join with him on the tour. Here is the itinerary:

www.japanphotoguide.com/event/2020-autumn-small-group-photo-tour-to-japan/.

Use the password jpg2020fall

If you have any questions about the itinerary, feel free to contact Evan at evanpike@gmail.com. Plus you can learn more about Evan at his websites: www.japanphotoguide.com/ or www.evanpike.com/. Or contact Dan Leffel at danleffelphoto@gmail.com.



GSCCC Winners

Here are the results from the latest Gulf States Camera Club Council competitions.

2019 End of Year Photojournalism Projected

Surf Rider	Randy Ratzlaff	1 st
A Taking 5 Coal Miner	Ron Lin	2 nd
On Engine 487	Dennis Fritsche	HM

May 2019 Nature Projected

Morning Sunlight over Aspen Trees	Wenchi Lee	3 rd
Garrapata Beach Breakers	Dennis Fritsche	HM



Randy Ratzlaff

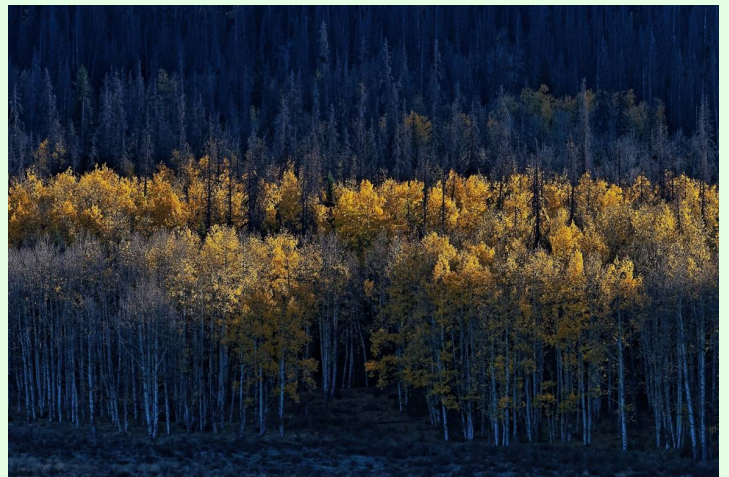
Dennis Fritsche



Dennis Fritsche



Ron Lin



Wenchi Lee



June Winning Images – Open

Masters

Jose Artiles	Over a Cloudy Manhattan	14	1st,BOS
Lois Lehman	Sunset on the Keys	14	2nd
Linda Grigsby	Patagonia Landscape	14	3rd
Don Champlin	Jungle Thirst	14	HM
Marie Hansen	Milky Way Rising, Goblin Valley	13	HM

Advanced

Cathy Lin	Camels on mountain ridge line in Gobi desert	14	1st
Ron Lin	Humming Bird	14	2nd
Michael Farnham	In A Hurry	14	3rd
Nock Wong	Marchi Picchu	13	HM
Nancy Mack	Ghost-Ranch	13	HM

Intermediate

Randy Ratzlaff	Gramming with the Grammys	14	1st
Michael Losurdo	Bow Fishing at the Dam	13	2nd
Jason Ware	Inside the Arc de Triomphe, Paris.	13	3rd
Mary Jean Blevins	Bluebird Pair in Nesting Behavior	13	HM
Debbie Conard	Profile of Innocence	13	HM

Entry

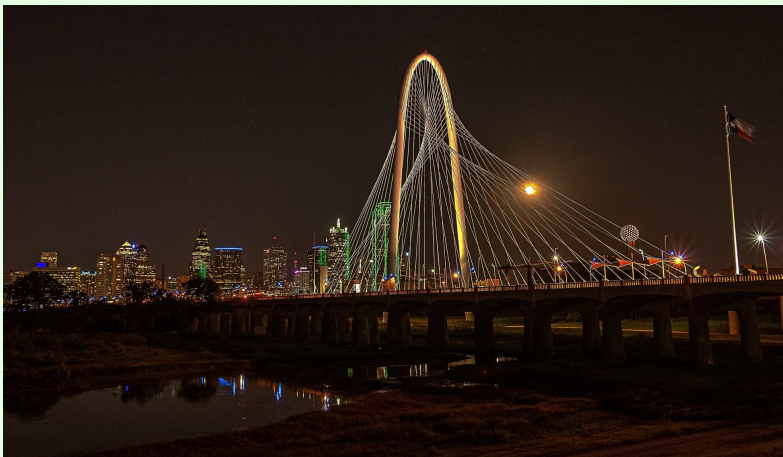
Siu Wong	Day Firework of Magic Kingdom	13	1st
Steven Earles	Alesund Reflections	13	2nd
Craig Rowen	Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge at Moon rise	13	3rd
Ray Davidson	Morning At Lispole	13	HM
Sherry Huang	Frozen Moment	13	HM



Siu Wong



Steven Earles



Craig Rowen



Ray Davidson





Sherry Huang



Randy Ratzlaff



Michael Losurdo Jr



Jason Ware



Mary Jean Blevins





Debbie Conard



Cathy Lin



Ron Lin



Michael Farnham

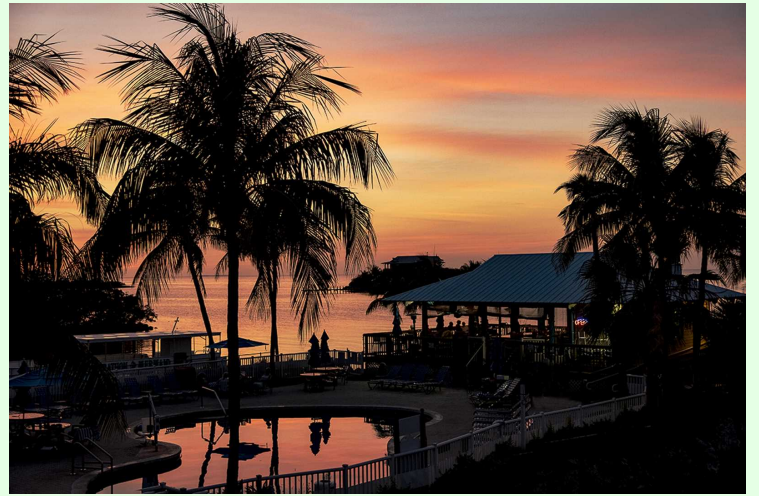


Nock Wong

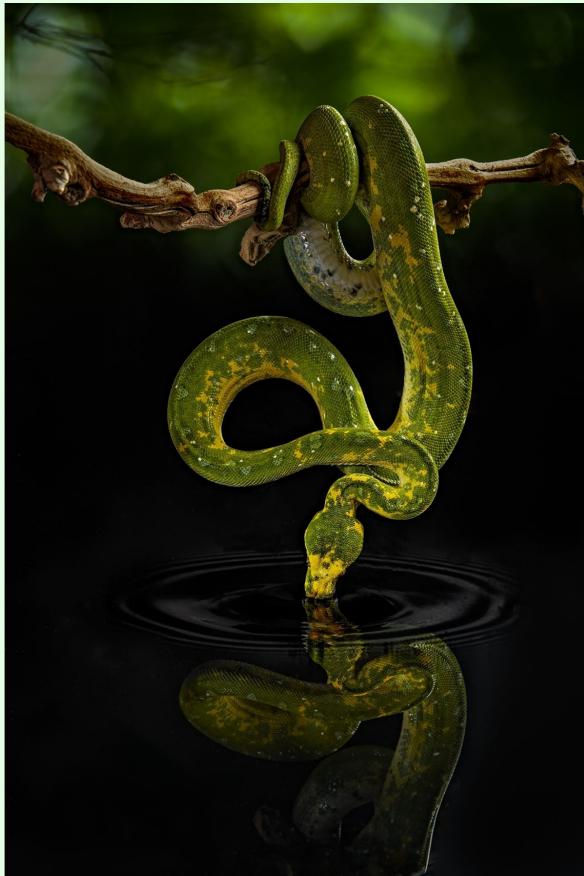




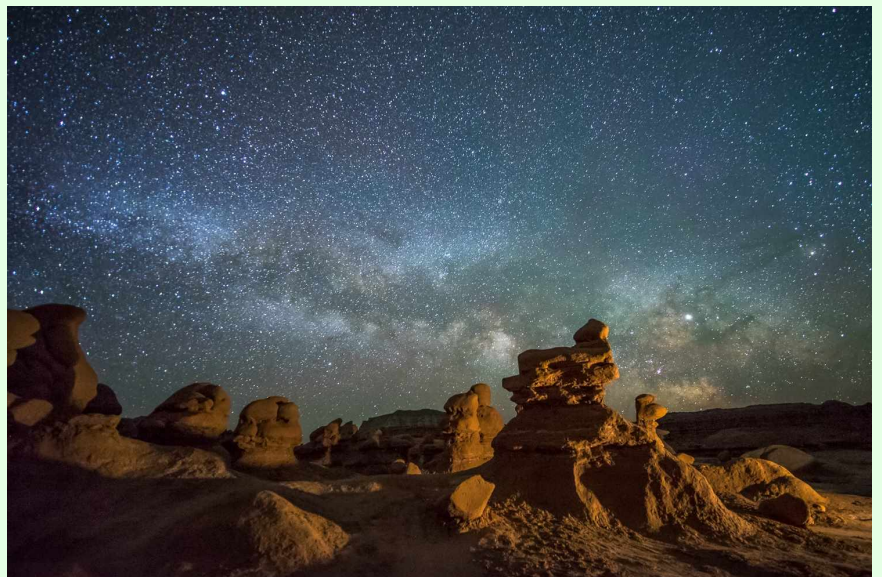
Nancy Mack



Lois Lehman



Don Champlin



Marie Hansen



Guest Speakers - *Why Bother With Black & White When Color Is So Realistic, So Beautiful?* - Irwin Lightstone

After 29 years practicing trial law, Irwin Lightstone closed his law firm to concentrate on his photography. Irwin is president of the North Texas Cactus and Succulent Society, past president of the Texas Association of Cactus and Succulent Societies. Specializing in macro and botanical photography, he gives photography seminars and workshops throughout the country. Additionally, he led programs sponsored by the Dallas Museum of Art, the Dallas Arboretum, the International Photography Hall of Fame, The Huntington, and the Cactus and Succulent Society of America.

Irwin's photography has won numerous awards. His images have been published in a number of books and journals and are often featured in the Cactus and Succulent Journal. Succulent Abstracts and Absurdities in Black and White, his book, captures the subtle beauty, form and texture of succulent plants. Irwin lives in Dallas with his wife (Robin), one cat, two cars and several thousand plants.

Future PPC Programs

September Lois Lehman The Volunteer Photographer

January Sharlott Hasty From Birds To Glaciers, Wintertime Photography

Smithsonian.com's 17th Annual Photo Contest

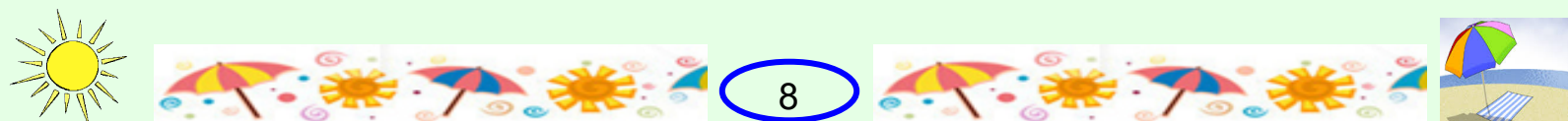
The Smithsonian.com has a photo contest in full swing, and it's not too late to enter. Visit their website for more information.

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/photocontest/rules/>

The following six contest categories are drawn from subjects of special interest to Smithsonian.com:

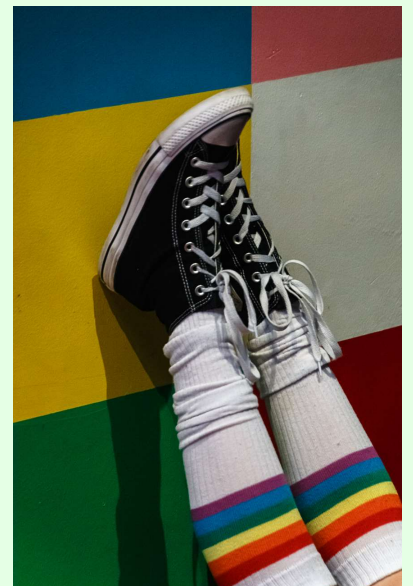
1. Natural World: Animals, plants and landscapes; geological or climatological features; and scientific processes and endeavors.
2. Travel: Locales, peoples or activities in the United States and abroad that convey a sense of place.
3. People: Portraits and photos of groups or individuals.
4. The American Experience: Events, objects or activities connecting the American people to their history or their cultural heritage; photographs that tell us what it means to be an American and provide a sense of what it is like to live in this country.
5. Altered Images: Photographs manipulated for artistic purposes by applying digital and/or traditional special effects.
6. Mobile: Any photograph taken with a mobile device (phone or tablet).

Smithsonian.com's 17th Annual Photo Contest ends November 30, 2019, at 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time.



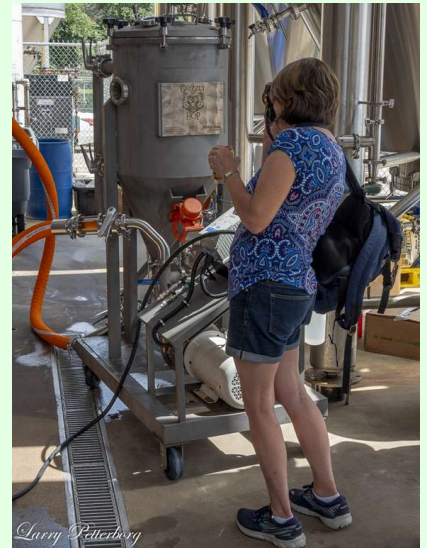
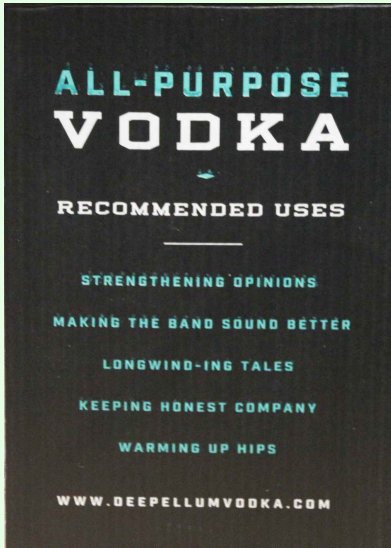
Rainbow Vomit Photoshoot.

July 20th members of the club toured the *Rainbow Vomit*. Here are some of their images.



Deep Ellum Brewery

June 2^{9th} members of the club toured the *Deep Ellum Brewey*. Here are some of their images.



Upcoming Competition Themes

August	Open	December	No Contest	April	Special Contet	August	Open
September	Texas Historical Sites	January (2020)	Down Time	May	Town or Cityscape	September	Night
October (Print)	Open (B&W or Sepia)	February	Open	June	Open	October (Print)	Open
November	Music	March (Print)	Open	July	Transportation	November	Abstract

Competition Standings*

Photographer	Image Points	Place Points	Total Points	Photographer	Image Points	Place Points	Total Points
<i>Entry</i>				<i>Intermediate</i>			
Clive Fernando	25	10	35	Jason Ware	26	13	39
Siu Wong	23	10	33	Randy Ratzlaff	24	10	34
Steven Earles	24	7	31	Bob Peterson	24	3	27
Diana Watt	21	6	27	Michael Losurdo Jr	21	6	27
Craig Rowen	23	3	26	Mary Jean Blevins	23	1	24
Sam Lucas	21	3	24	Richard Otto	23	0	23
Sherry Huang	22	1	23	Cliff Mckenzie	22	0	22
Richard Kidner	17	0	17	Earl Snoga	21	0	21
Janet Yiu	16	0	16	Vincent Carroll	20	1	21
Ray Davidson	13	1	14	Daniel Dailey	20	0	20
Debbie Nielson	13	0	13	David Boomstein	19	0	19
Jennifer Wu	13	0	13	John Eden	12	6	18
Brent Goette	12	0	12	Debbie Conard	13	1	14
Suresh Lashmipathy	12	0	12	Retha Moulder	11	1	12
Elisabeth Shore	11	1	12	John Lebeck	11	0	11
Rhonda Schmid	11	0	11	Katherine Moulton	10	0	10
Suzanne Beasley	11	0	11				
Sanjay Kaul	10	0	10				
Denny Farmer	9	0	9				
Perry Buhler	8	0	8				
<i>Advanced</i>				<i>Masters</i>			
Cathy Lin	25	11	36	Jose Artiles	25	11	36
Aaron Leshner	24	10	34	Dennis Fritsche	21	11	32
Nock Wong	25	7	32	Lois Lehman	23	6	29
Alan Daniel	24	3	27	Linda Grigsby	25	3	28
Michael Farnham	24	3	27	Larry Petterborg	22	6	28
Bud Mallar	23	1	24	Sam Wilson	23	1	24
Carina Johnsson	23	0	23	Danette Volkmer	21	1	22
Nancy Mack	22	1	23	James Stover	19	3	22
Linfen Hwang	22	0	22	Carol Barlow	21	0	21
Jerry Schlesinger	21	0	21	John Lehman	19	0	19
Ron Lin	14	6	20	Don Champlin	14	1	15
Mark Bernthal	19	0	19	Marie Hansen	13	1	14
Wenchi Lee	19	0	19				

*** 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: Are You Failing Enough?

Luke Perry of 90201 fame (you know who he is....don't pretend otherwise) was quoted last night, "you have to fail several times in order to succeed". I pass my Alexa Echo, it flashes, "Skills are like apps". If you are not happy with your images, then you are not taking enough photos. Estee Lauder wrote, "I never dreamed about success. I worked for it". Go to your dinning room table, set up a tripod and take a picture across the room at aperture f/5.6. Now take a picture full open f/1.8 (whatever) followed by an image of f16. Study the results of sharpness vs. what is in focus. What if you combined the photos? Welcome to the beginning of bracketing. What if you took one picture balanced according to the histogram and then pushed the next two exposures to each end of the graph? Welcome to the beginning of HDR. Experiment! Push your camera to new limits to understand impact. In a KelbyOne course, the instructor stated:

**I hear, I forget.
I see, I remember.
I do, I understand**

This is so true. Maybe Pele said it best, "Success is no accident. Its is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice and most of all, love of what you are doing."

Cliff McKenzie

Plano Photography Club Officers & Volunteers

Title	Officers & Volunteers	Email Address
President	Cliff McKenzie	ppc@planophotographyclub.com
1 st Vice Pres./Secretary	Suzanne Beasley	secretary@planophotographyclub.com
2 nd Vice Pres./Programs	Parvin Stiles	programs@planophotographyclub.com
Activities	Karen Malone/Suzanne Beasley	activity@planophotographyclub.com
Treasurer	Michael Losurdo	treasurer@planophotographyclub.com
Contest Chair	Alan Daniel	contest@planophotographyclub.com
Membership Chair	Greg Jones	membership@planophotographyclub.com
Contest Site Admin	Jerry Schlesinger	contestsiteadmin@planophotographyclub.com
GSCCC Representative	Alan Daniel	gsccl-rep@planophotographyclub.com
PSA Representative	Larry Petterborg	psa-rep@planophotographyclub.com
Historian	Cindy Vaillancourt	historian@planophotographyclub.com
Light Rental	Jerry Schlesinger	lightrental@planophotographyclub.com
Newsletter Editor	James Stover	newsletter@planophotographyclub.com
Webmaster	Sam Wilson	webmaster@planophotographyclub.com
Calibration Equip	Dennis Fritsche	calibrate@planophotographyclub.com
Tabletop Equipment	Mary Jean Blevins	table_top@planophotographyclub.com
Contest Slideshows	Alan Daniel	contest-slideshow@planophotographyclub.com
Image Critiques	Larry Petterborg	lpetterborg@planophotographyclub.com
Training	Dennis Fritsche	training@planophotographyclub.com

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! – August 2019
www.planophotographyclub.com

JAMES T STOVER

12

EDITOR

