



The FLASH!

September 2019 Vol. 36, No. 5

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



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Best In Show: *Tangled Up In Blue* By Don Champlin

Having an interest in snakes and being in frequent communication with owners of reptile collections and relocators put me in a position to know when this Texas coral snake was found and captured for relocation in East Texas. I loaded up a full compliment of studio lights and equipment I have put together specifically for small animals and reptiles. The snake was located in Longview and so that's where I took all my equipment and set up shop in the collectors small 8'x10" snake room full of 15 or so cages filled with various snakes, non-venomous and venomous, along with a Texas tortoise.

This was not the best scenario for working with and photographing a highly venomous snake. Although coral snakes have the most toxic venom of all US snakes, they are not aggressive and are slow to bite in defense, usually. The snake was photographed with both a 24-70mm and 180 macro lenses on white Foamcore and black Plexiglas while being lit with 3 Einstein studio strobes. This snake, typical of coral snakes, likes to hide its head and tucks it under its body coils, as they prefer darkness since they spend most their lives underground. I photographed for an hour or so working many angles directing the handler to coax some artistic curves from my deadly model.

After the shoot the images were processed first in Capture One 11. This is the software I use while shooting tethered and is my standard preferred software and protocol for studio work. Basic tones, saturation, and contrast were done first, then clarity and sharpening. The image was sent to Photoshop CC for further tweaks where I painted color into the blown highlight caused by the super glossy scales. The background is a composite of two separate images blended together and masked onto the original snake image. I then sent it into Topaz color effects for additional refining which brought my blue hues into the image.

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

September 27 to October 20, 2019 - Texas State Fair Scavenger Shoot - In a Photography Scavenger Shoot, you must take pictures of given subjects in a certain location within a certain amount of time. The subjects will be sent to you once you have registered on the PPC members website. This year we'll be shooting at the 2019 Texas State Fair (For directions and other information visit their website at BigTex.com).

Rules are Simple:

1. This is NOT a contest, but just for fun.
2. All photos must be taken by a PPC Active Team Member during the duration of the 2019 State Fair.
3. After the shoot you will select ONE image per subject. Details for submitting them to follow. Also, as for all club activities, please send 5-8 images to clubphotos@planophotographyclub.com for inclusion in a future PPC Meeting slideshow. The deadline to turn in images is November 15, 2019.

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 Good Union Urban BBQ. Optionally you may register at worldwidephotowalk.com.

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

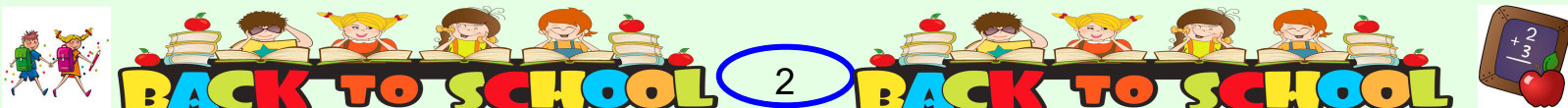
November 15 – November 17, 2019 – Beavers Bend – Beavers Bend State Park and Broken Bow Lake, Oklahoma. 170 miles from Plano, about three hours driving. See website for details.

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.



GSCCC Winners

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

June 2019 Photojournalism Projected

Dennis Fritsche 2nd Place

Young Cowboys Schooled at 42



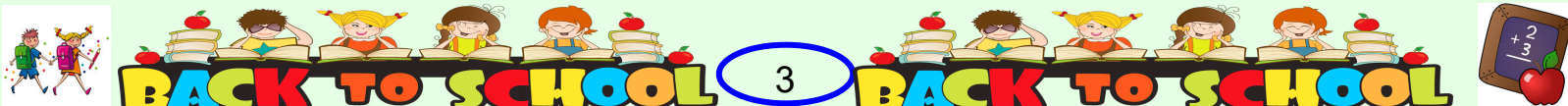
Trinity River Photo Contest

The Trinity River is a relatively wild landscape that enriches our lives through access to nature and as a beautiful space to unite and gather. The Trinity River Photo Contest is open to photographers of every age and ability. Year after year, hundreds of photos are entered into the annual contest and the winner's list continues to grow. Submissions open for the 2019 Trinity River Photo Contest on Monday, April 15, 2019, and close on Monday, October 14, 2019.

Photographers entering in the Professional, Amateur, or Youth divisions may submit an image in one or more of the following categories: Nature, Places, and People. Each entry consists of an entry form and a single photograph. There is no fee to enter photography into this Contest. To enter, visit <https://trinityparkconservancy.org/enjoy-it-now/events/photo-contest/>; complete an entry form with the required information, including your name, address, phone number, email address, division and category of the submission, photo caption, and the location the photo was taken; and submit along with your photograph.

The categories for entries are: (1) Nature, (2) People, (3) Places. Each entrant can submit a maximum of two (2) photographs per category, for a total of six (6) photographs per person. Photographs must meet the following requirements:

1. Photographs must be taken within the Trinity River Corridor, defined as the area between I-35 North at Webb Chapel to Hwy 175-S at I-20. Photos should be taken no more than 100 feet outside of the levees.
2. Photographs must be in digital format. Only online entries will be eligible. No print or film submissions will be accepted for entry into this Contest. The photograph need not be taken with a digital camera; scans of negatives, transparencies, or photographic prints are acceptable. All digital files must be 10 megabytes or smaller, must be in JPEG or .jpg format, and must be a minimum of 1,600 pixels wide (if a horizontal image) or 1,600 pixels tall (if a vertical image).
3. Photographs must have been taken within one (1) year prior to the date of entry (after March 2, 2018) and many not previously have won a award in the Trinity River Photo Contest.



July Winning Images – Hi key/Low Key

Masters				Advanced			
Don Champlin	Tangled up in Blue	15	1st,BOS	Cathy Lin	Ejina sheep	15	1st
Dennis Fritsche	Sacred Kiva	15	2nd	Jim Spencer	Iris over Black	15	2nd
Russell McGuire	Girl Without Pearl Earring	15	3rd	Nancy Mack	Three Ranuculus	15	3rd
John Lehman	A tip of the hat	15	HM	Aaron Leshner	Looking for next meal.	15	HM
Lois Lehman	Blake Taking It Easy	14	HM	Carina Johnsson	Amaryllis Belladonna (10504583)	14	HM
Intermediate				Entry			
Richard Otto	Daisies	15	1st	Rhonda Schmid	Play Ball	14	1st
Debbie Conard	Eyes of Innocence	14	2nd	Sanjay Kaul	The Rose	14	2nd
Jason Ware	Just Lion in the Sun	14	3rd	Brent Goette	Nicole-7-2-HkLk	14	3rd
Vincent Carroll	Roots	13	HM	Siu Wong	Opera Singer	13	HM
Katherine Moulton	White light	13	HM	Steve Yauch	Tandy Hills	13	HM



Rhonda Schmid



Sanjay Kaul



Brent Goette



Siu Wong



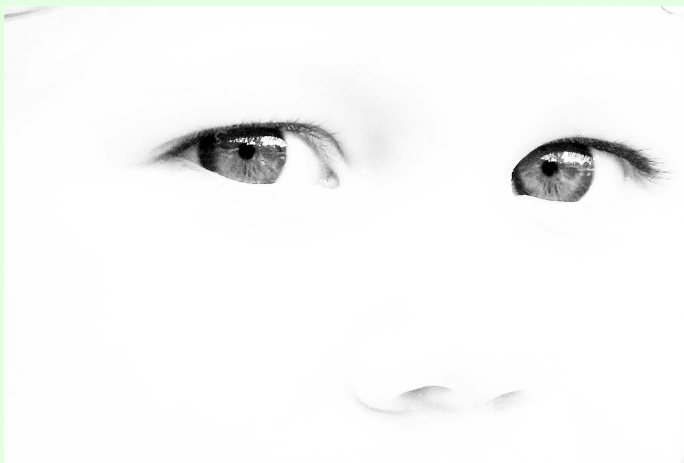
Steve Yauch



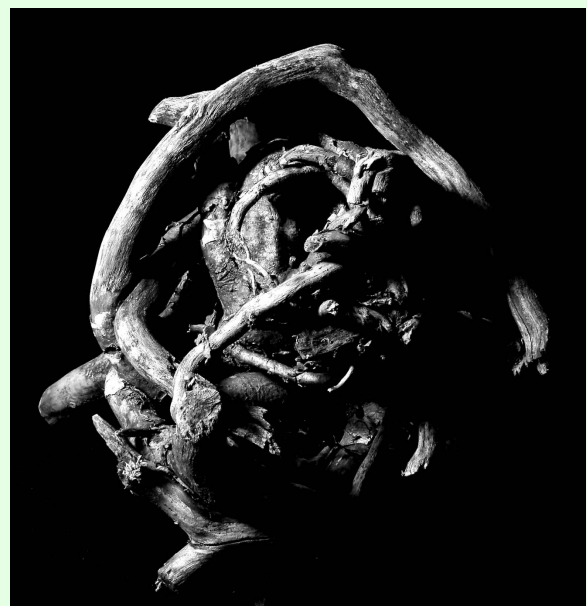
Richard Otto



Jason Ware



Debbie Conard



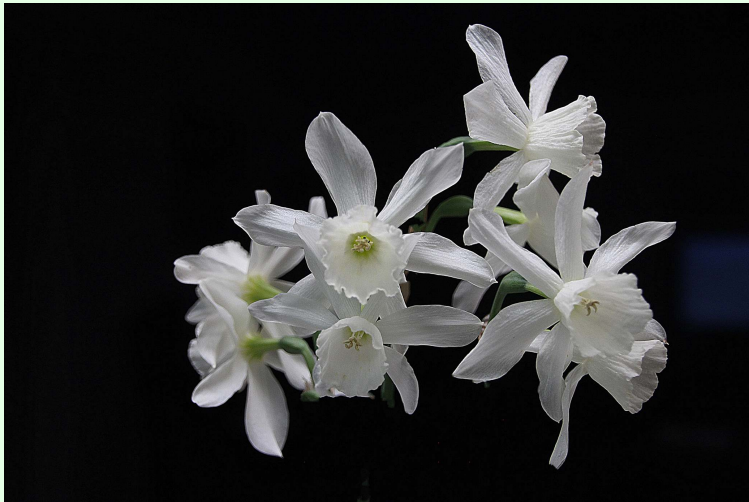
Vincent Carroll



Katherine Moulton



Cathy Lin



Jim Spencer



Nancy Mack



Aaron Lesher



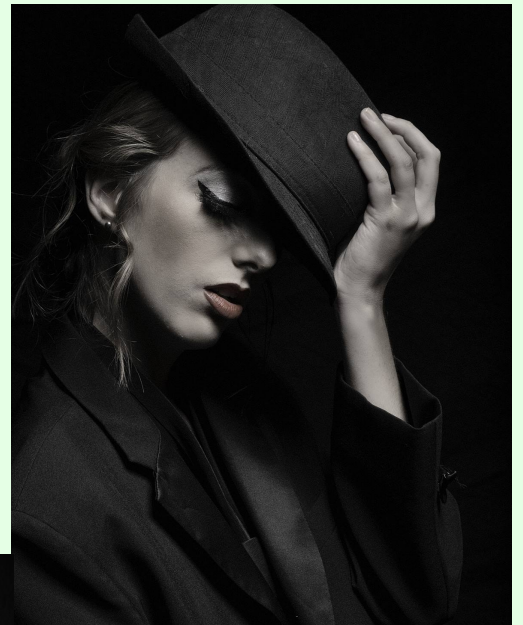
Carina Johnsson



Dennis Fritsche



Russell McGuire



John Lehman



Lois Lehman

Guest Speaker - *The Volunteer Photographer* - Lois Lehman

After 50 years in Pediatric Radiology, Lois retired in 2012 as Assistant Director of Radiology at Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. John, a Police Psychologist, retired a few years later. Their family includes daughter, Jennifer, her husband Rich, and three grandchildren. Lois has been an active PPC member for over 25 years. She has served as Co-President, PPC committee officer, and photography class instructor.

Lois and John are passionate about photography. They started by photographing school and church trips, graduations, engagements, and various groups. As accomplished volunteer photographers, they added photographing groups such as Garland Habitat for Humanity, Dallas Heritage Village, Farmers Branch Historical Park, Dallas Community Emergency Response Team, and Dallas County Medical Reserve Corps. Lois's images have been published in *Dallas Morning News*, social media, calendars, budget reports, photo sites, newsletters, and brochures.

Lois enjoys Southwest photography, portraiture, and painting with light. Some of her awards include 2001 City of Richardson Best of Show, 2013 PPC Digital Image of the Year, and 2018 PPC Portrait Award.

Lois will share her tips on the preparation and ideas for documenting large events. She will discuss the challenges that may occur, suggestions on post-production, and methods to transfer final images back to your family or organizations.

Future PPC Programs

October	Daniel Scott Arnault	How to take Dynamic Environmental Portraits
November	Shawn Saumell	The Art of Still Life
January	Sharlott Hasty	From Birds To Glaciers, Wintertime Photography
February	Margaret Bryant	Top 10 Dog Photography Tips

Club Milestones

The Plano Photography Club has been growing. As of this month we have 172 members. Of those, 69 entered the competition this month. This includes 23 in the Entry Class and 20 in the Intermediate Class. It is encouraging that our newer members are competing.

We regularly have 80 to 90 people attending our monthly meetings. Our growing club continues to be a dynamic organization thanks to the hard work of the board members and volunteers. Most of all our success is due to you, our members. Thank you.

Training

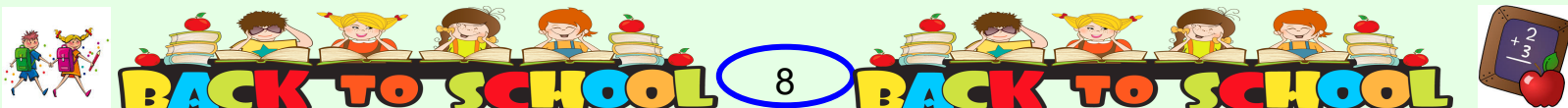
The training schedule for September 19, 2019:

Lightroom - Not Meeting This Month.

Exploring Still Life Photography - Room 1. - Last class.

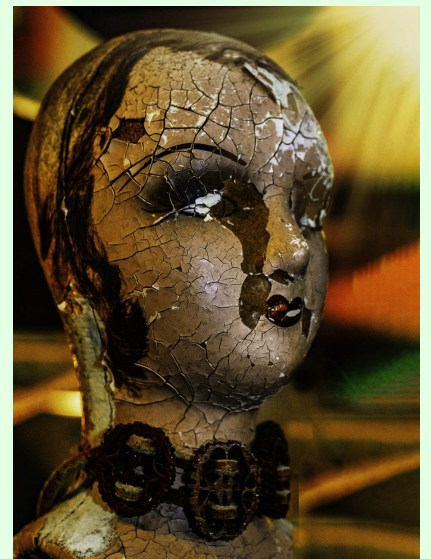
Competition Mentoring for Beginners - Not Meeting This Month .

Photography Fundamentals - Room 8 - Class Is Full. No New Participants. Next Class in January.



Dolly Python Photoshoot.

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



This another in a series of interviews with prominent club members.

About me:

North Texas has been my home for most of my life. I was educated here, married here, and raised a daughter here. I have been a member of PPC for many years.

What do you like to shoot, how often do you shoot, etc.?

My photographic interests are landscapes, abstracts, travel, buildings, and events. I also like to use software processing filters to express myself in my photographic art.

Since I belong to several photographic groups (PPC, Heard Nature Photography, Complete Photographer, and the Focus Ministry at The First United Methodist Church in Richardson), I am taking photos often. I also volunteer to take photos for the Richardson Fire department and the Richardson City Parks and Recreation Department.

Describe any photo shoots and/or photo trips you want to do in the next few months.

In the near future I plan to join PPC members for the Kelby Photo Walk in October and Cedar Hill State Park in December. In October I am going to the Big Bend with

the Heard Club and in November I am going with them to Mowdy Ranch. Next year I have photo trips planned for Vietnam/Cambodia, Croatia, and Japan.

What lens do you use most often?

My Canon 24 – 105mm lens is versatile and I use it most often.

What software do you use for post-processing your images?

Lightroom is where I start my processing. If I have a difficult item to remove from a photo or I want to add a filter, I use Photoshop. Since I like to experiment with processing, I also use Topaz, On1, and Nik.

Any photography advice for our club members?

This is the advice that I would give club members:

Always keep learning;
Take photography courses;
Try something new;
Get outside your comfort zone;
Enter club competitions to get feedback from experienced and more knowledgeable persons;
Volunteer for the club;
Go on field trips and meet members who may be able to help you with your photography growth;
Take advantage of the classes that the club offers; and
Have fun!

Why I Like Field Trips - By Dennis Fritsche

Club Field Trips are an underused part of what the Plano Photography Club offers its members. I go on as many activities as I can with PPC and the other two clubs where I am a member. Our club has more than 120 members and a well-attended activity might have 20-30 photographers. Why should you attend the activities and field trips?

1. You get to hang out with a bunch of cool photographers.
2. You can learn from others. If you are new to the club or photography, ask someone if you can tag along with them or ask for help with your camera or a technique.
3. You might find a new location in your own neighborhood.
4. Going on extended trips, such as to Beavers Bend in November, gives you the opportunity to explore another part of the county.
5. If you have not planned a photographic trip, you can see how it is done and learn that the most important part of any trip is determining "where are we going to eat?"

I encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities to expand your skills and your horizons.



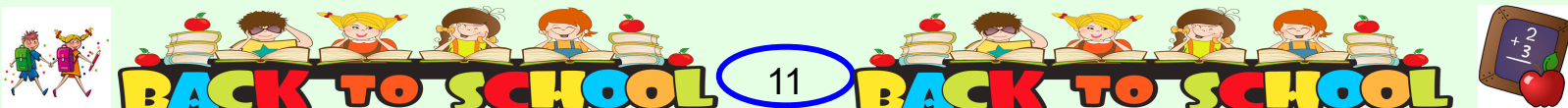
Upcoming Competition Themes

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
December	No Contest	April	Special Contest	August	Open	December	No Contest

Competition Standings*

Photographer	Image Points	Place Points	Total Points	Photographer	Image Points	Place Points	Total Points
<i>Entry</i>				<i>Intermediate</i>			
Siu Wong	36	13	49	Jason Ware	40	16	56
Steven Earles	37	7	44	Richard Otto	38	10	48
Clive Fernando	34	10	44	Randy Ratzlaff	34	10	44
Diana Watt	32	6	38	Michael Losurdo Jr	31	6	37
Craig Rowen	33	3	36	Vincent Carroll	33	2	35
Rhonda Schmid	25	10	35	Debbie Conard	27	7	34
Sherry Huang	33	1	34	Cliff Mckenzie	33	0	33
Sam Lucas	30	3	33	Mary Jean Blevins	32	1	33
Sanjay Kaul	24	6	30	Earl Snoga	32	0	32
Brent Goette	26	3	29	Daniel Dailey	30	0	30
Richard Kidner	27	0	27	David Boomstein	30	0	30
Debbie Nielson	26	0	26	John Eden	23	6	29
Elisabeth Shore	22	1	23	Bob Peterson	24	3	27
Ray Davidson	22	1	23	Katherine Moulton	23	1	24
Denny Farmer	18	0	18	Retha Moulder	23	1	24
Perry Buhler	17	0	17	John Lebeck	20	0	20
Janet Yiu	16	0	16	Dennis Kraft	10	0	10
Steve Yauch	13	3	16	Larry Page	9	0	9
Jennifer Wu	13	0	13				
Sherre Shafer	12	0	12				
Suresh Lashmipathy	12	0	12				
Suzanne Beasley	11	0	11				
<i>Advanced</i>				<i>Masters</i>			
Cathy Lin	40	21	61	Dennis Fritsche	36	17	53
Aaron Leshner	39	11	50	Jose Artilles	36	11	47
Nock Wong	36	7	43	Lois Lehman	37	7	44
Nancy Mack	37	4	41	Don Champlin	29	12	41
Alan Daniel	37	3	40	Linda Grigsby	37	3	40
Carina Johnsson	37	1	38	Larry Petterborg	33	6	39
Michael Farnham	34	3	37	Danette Volkmer	35	1	36
Bud Mallar	32	1	33	John Lehman	34	1	35
Jerry Schlesinger	32	0	32	Carol Barlow	34	0	34
Linfen Hwang	32	0	32	Sam Wilson	33	1	34
Wenchi Lee	32	0	32	James Stover	29	3	32
Mark Bernthal	28	0	28	Marie Hansen	26	1	27
Jim Spencer	15	6	21	Russ Mcguire	15	3	18
Ron Lin	14	6	20				

* 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: You Don't Make A Photograph Just With A Camera

"You don't make a photograph just with a camera. You bring to the act of photography all the pictures you have seen, the books you have read, the music you have heard, the people you have loved" famous words from none other than Ansel Adams. In the end, some will see the simple photograph you took while others will go deeper and see what you saw, studied impacted by the music and people you love.

PPC is a lot like a photograph. Some see just a monthly meeting about photography. While others see behind the scenes in all that goes into the third Thursday of the month "show". Earlier in the month, a dozen or so people met to discuss their various areas of responsibility. Our work is not only for the current month, but in some cases reaches out over the next couple of years. The monthly speakers are set up well in advance on subjects that are to be of interest to members. Events and activities are created, coordinated and managed both real time while also addressing ideas months out. Who is going to be our judge for the November contest? Yes, we have it secured. How is it we are recognized by PSA and GSCCC? It is due to the constant work of good people. Coming soon, wait to you see what we are going to do to herald PPC photographer's work in exhibits. We have educational programs that reflect what the membership desires taught by some great instructors. The Flash does not print itself and the webpage is constantly changing; thanks to the work of a few. Ever wondered how the shows and music are put together? Even all the above ignores the great efforts by the business side of the house (treasury and membership). The "show" reflects an undercurrent of a love for PPC.

This coming May, it will be time for "new blood" to step up in the management of PPC. Over the next 6 to 7 months, think of ways that you might like to serve. Not sure what you have to offer, come to the next Executive Council meeting held first Thursday of each month and explore the possibilities. Trust me, it is a lot of fun to be on the inside.

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	gscgcc-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! – September 2019

www.planophotographyclub.com

Visit our [Facebook page](#).



JAMES T STOVER

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EDITOR

