



# The FLASH!

November 2019 Vol. 36, No. 7

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

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



## Best In Show: *Sunset At Texas State Capitol Building By Nock Wong*

The Texas State Capitol building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1970 and designated a National Historic Landmark in 1986. Using online research about the site before going, we planned a trip in July in order to shoot the building during the golden hour.

I walked around the outside the building, shooting it with different foregrounds. Finally I found a good location, the foreground had colorful flowers and the background was clean without any distractions. I used a tripod and Nikon D850 with 24-70 lens and started shooting a half hour before sunset. I continued shooting every 10-20 minutes until blue hour, capturing all the different colors and nuanced light.

We took many images both inside and outside of the Building, but did not want to compete with each other in the contest. Graciously Siu let me submit one of the golden hour outside images for competition. Siu submitted an inside dome image which won third place in Entry Level. The image was processed in Lightroom and camera settings were Manual Exposure, ISO 100, 24mm, F/8, 0.6 second.

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## Upcoming Club Activities / Photo Ops

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

**December 7, 2019 - Cedar Hill State Park** – Cedar Hill Area, Penn Farm, Cedar Ridge Preserve, Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center. Please note the state park opens at 7 am. Sunrise is at 7:17. Cedar Hill State Park is in southwest Dallas County, adjacent to Joe Pool lake. 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 water scapes. 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 walkabout to work off lunch.

For lunch after visiting the park, there are a few places to eat in downtown Cedar Hill and many along Highway 67. One favorite in downtown is Sam's Pizza and Pasta. It is locally owned with a large selection of Italian dishes.

**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 or online. The club will provide meat, drinks, and utensils. There will be many exciting and valuable door prizes!

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.

## Training

Class Schedule for November 21, 2019

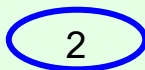
Classes start at 6:00 PM and end at 7:00 PM

*New and Perspective Member Orientation - Room 5*

*Ask Me Anything* – Room 1 - All are Welcome - This is an open session to discuss anything photographic – cameras, Lightroom, color managements, technique, gear, printing, travel planning, back-up strategies, whatever. If I don't know, someone else in the room will. A great place to learn something new. If you have a problem image or one you want to improve, bring a high-resolution copy on a memory stick and we will see what we can do – or email it to me at [training@planophotographyclub.com](mailto:training@planophotographyclub.com).

*Competition Mentoring for Beginners - Room 7 - On Going Class*

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



## Guest Speaker - *The Art Of Still Life* - Shawn Saumell

### November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting:

Shawn Saumell was born in New York and currently lives and works in Dallas. He received an MFA from Lesley University College of Arts and Design formerly known as The Art Institute of Boston at Lesley University; BFA from Texas Woman's University, magna cum laude; and an AA from Collin College, cum laude.

Saumell's work has been featured in over 150 exhibitions worldwide and has won many international awards including, but not limited to: "First Place," "Director's Choice," "Photographer of the Year," "Best of Biennial," "100 Best International," "Top 50 MFA Painters in America," "Top 25 International Fine Artists," and "Best of Show."

He has had a recent solo exhibition at the JM Gallery, Dallas, TX [2018]; One Arts Plaza, Dallas, TX [2016]; and Governor's Island Art Fair, New York, NY [2015]; and recent juried exhibitions at the New York Center for Photographic Art, New York, NY [2018]; A Smith Gallery, Johnson City, TX [2016]; Provincetown Conservation Trust, Provincetown, MA [2016]; and L.A. Photo Curator, Los Angeles, CA [2016]; as well as recent group exhibitions at the Dallas Arboretum, Dallas, TX [2018]; Art 7 Gallery, Fort Worth, TX [2018]; Commons Gallery, Cambridge, MA [2017]; and the Linner Gallery, New York, NY [2016].

To learn more about Shawn and his work, we ask you visit his website at:

<https://www.shawnsaumell.com/>

In his program, Shawn Saumell will present his process and work based on using found objects to sculpt and assemble still life tableaux, which are then photographed. These maquettes and vignettes range from minimal abstracts to hyper-real worlds; from monochrome to vibrant false color. Come and visit his worlds of constructed photography.

### Future PPC Programs

January 16   Sharlott Hasty      *From Birds To Glaciers, Wintertime Photography*

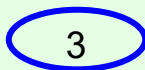
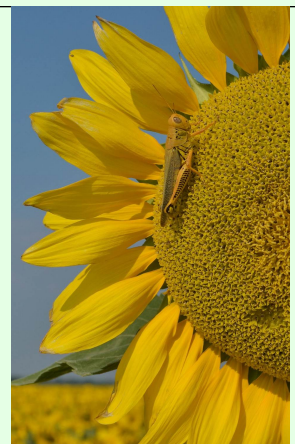
February 20   Margaret Bryant      *Top 10 Dog Photography Tips*

### GSCCC Winners

Here are the results from the Gulf States Camera Club Council competition.

#### September 2019 Nature Projected

Debbie Conard      "Nature's Camouflage" Honorable Mention



## September Winning Images – Texas Historical Site

### Masters

Sam Wilson	1870 Waco Suspension Bridge	14	1st
Jose Artilles	Battleship Texas	14	2nd
Lois Lehman	Ye Olde Laundry on the Homestead	13	3rd
Dennis Fritsche	Stairs at Old Red Courthouse	13	HM

### Intermediate

Debbie Conard	Into the Future	13	1st
Randy Ratzlaff	"Gone But Not Forgotten"	12	2nd
Heidi Phillips	SanElizarioMission	12	3rd
Cliff McKenzie	Kerens TX - Shuttle Columbia - Ground Zero	12	HM

### Advanced

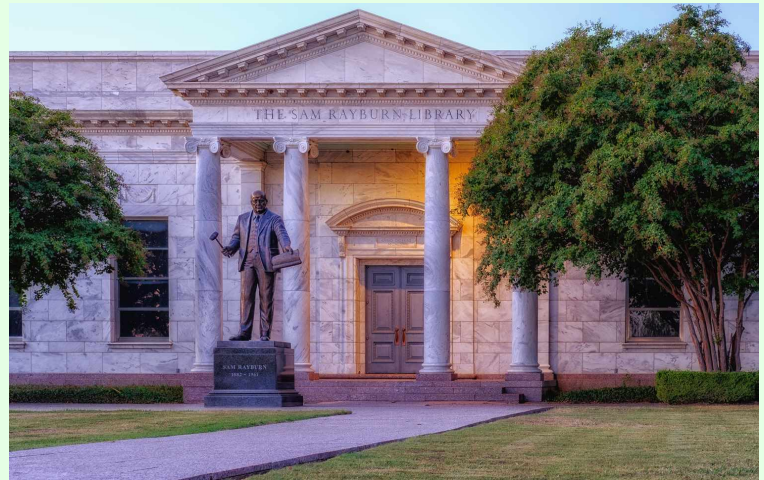
Nock Wong	Sunset at Texas State Capitol Building	14	1st, BOS
Bud Mallar	DHV Reenactors	14	2nd
Wenchi Lee	Administration Building at Fort Griffin	14	3rd
Michael Farnham	Bells of Espada	13	HM
Jerry Schlesinger	Old Alton Bridge	12	HM

### Entry

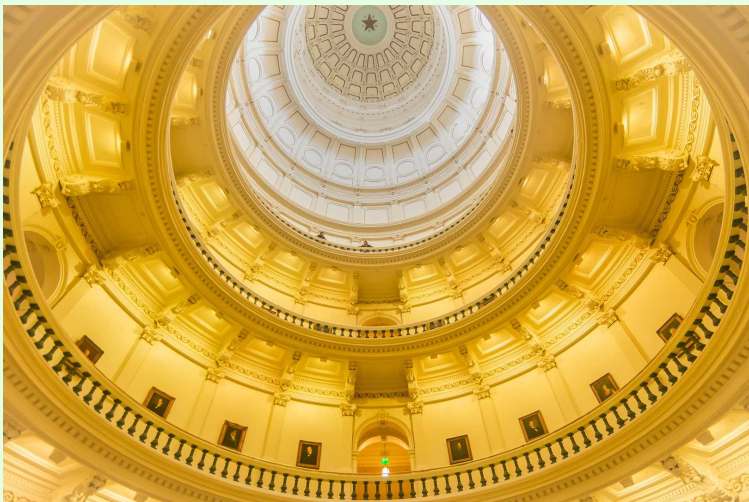
Richard Kidner	Texas Schools Days	14	1st
Steven Earles	Sam Rayburn Library	13	2nd
Siu Wong	Reach Top Level of The Tx. State Capital Building	13	3rd
Sanjay Kaul	Preservation Dallas - Restoration Project at Dealey Plaza	12	HM



**Richard Kidner**



**Steven Earles**



**Siu Wong**



**Sanjay Kaul**





Debbie Conard



Randy Ratzlaff



Heidi Phillips



Cliff McKenzie





**Bud Mallar**



**Wenchi Lee**



**Michael Farnham**



**Jerry Schlesinger**





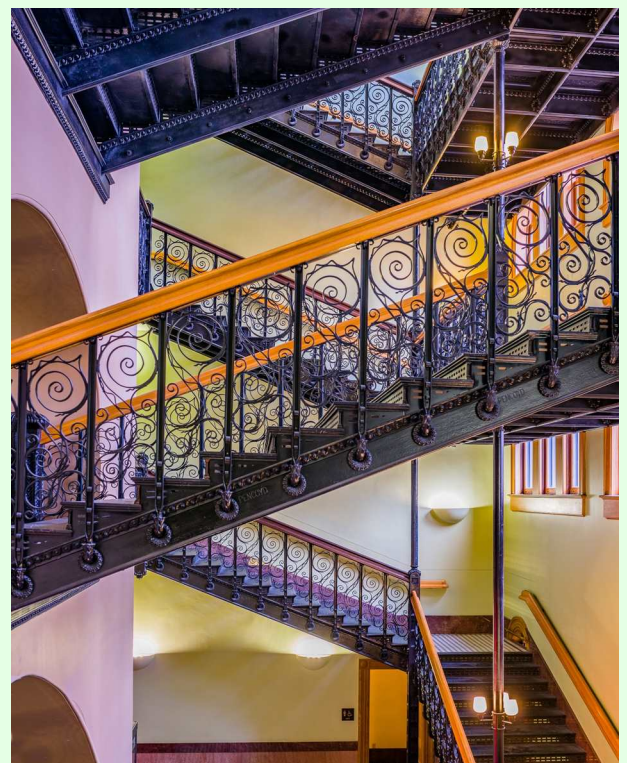
**Sam  
Wilson**



**Lois Lehman**



**Jose Artiles**



**Dennis Fritsche**



## PSA Annual "Photo Festival"

The Photographic Society of America (PSA) has announced a big change in the format of its annual conferences. Beginning next year, they say that there will be an increased "emphasis on education, workshops and photographic opportunities. The conferences will be shorter, and photo-tours will abound". This transformation has been marked with a new name; the PSA Annual "Photo Festival".

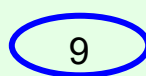
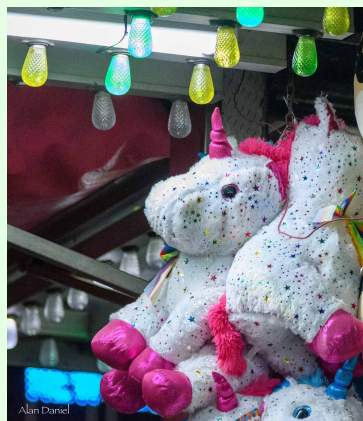
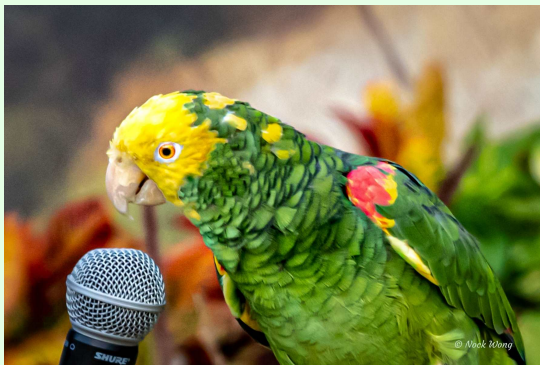
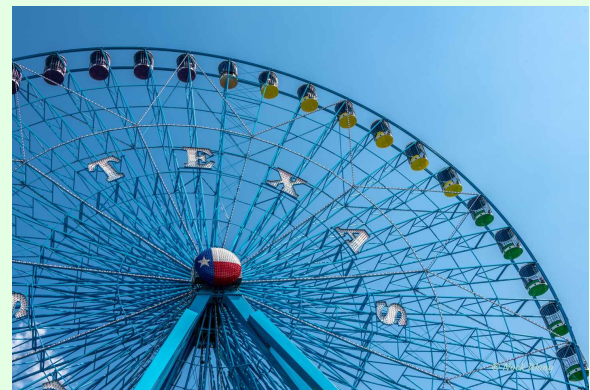
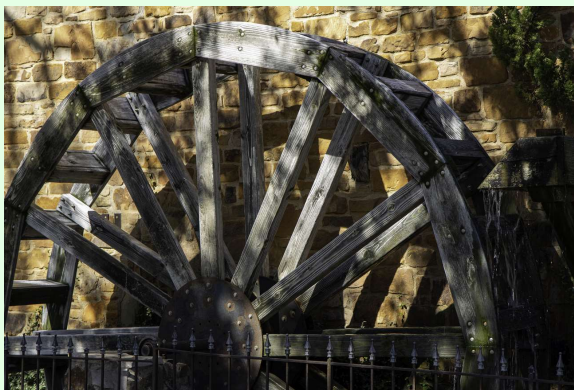
The Colorado Springs Photo Festival will be held for September 29 to October 3, 2020, in the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel in Colorado, Springs. The timing and location will provide unlimited photographic possibilities for fall colors, majestic mountain, and sand dunes. Check out the PSA website for more details (<https://psa-photo.org/>).

PSA Report by Larry Petterborg



## State Fair Of Texas Scavenger Shoot

During the 2019 State Fair of Texas, members took part in a Scavenger Shoot. There were nine categories: Super Hero, Treats, Antiquated, Texas, Energetic Barker, Furry, Abstract, Intriguing, and Red. Here are our favorite image in each category.



## Blackland Prairie Raptor Center Shoot

October 12<sup>th</sup> members of the club photographed raptors at the Blackland Prairie Raptor Center. Here are some of the images.



## Website Update

We are updating our website! The existing design requires a web developer to update monthly. Our webmaster, past president, and master photographer, Sam Wilson is moving to Waco. We have chosen Visual Pursuits (VP) as the hosting server. The club has been using VP for over 10 years for contest and image library. It is designed to serve photography clubs, is simple to maintain, and has sufficient features to fully support the club's needs.

The new design has begun, guided by David Swinney, Jerry Schlesinger, and Parvin Stiles. We have set up the structural menus (site map) and have populated most web pages with content. Still to be finalized is each web page's layout, content refinement, decisions on a permanent image(s) for the header banner to showcase Plano; lots of fun tasks to do.

The new website will look and feel different but it will have the same useful content that we have on the existing website but arranged in an better format for your quick and easy access. We hope to transfer over to the new website this year.

To access our work in progress, you click on the "join the club/Renew" option in the menu. Enjoy a tour of our new website and keep coming back to see the changing look and feel. Your feedback is welcome.

Parvin Stiles



## Upcoming Competition Themes

November	Music	March (Print)	Open	July	Transportation	November	Abstract
December	No Contest	April	Special Contest	August	Open	December	No Contest
January (2020)	Open	May	Town or Cityscape	September	Night	January (2021)	Open
February	Down Time	June	Open	October (Print)	Open	February (Print)	Serenity in Nature

## Competition Standings\*

Photographer	Image Points	Place Points	Total Points	Photographer	Image Points	Place Points	Total Points
<b>Entry</b>				<b>Intermediate</b>			
Clive Fernando	59	20	79	Richard Otto	63	21	84
Steven Earles	63	14	77	Jason Ware	61	16	77
Siu Wong	60	16	76	Debbie Conard	54	23	77
Sherry Huang	59	7	66	Randy Ratzlaff	58	16	74
Richard Kidner	52	10	62	Michael Losurdo Jr	53	6	59
Craig Rowen	53	3	56	Cliff Mckenzie	55	1	56
Sam Lucas	50	3	53	Earl Snoga	55	0	55
Sanjay Kaul	46	7	53	John Eden	43	6	49
Diana Watt	42	6	48	Mary Jean Blevins	45	2	47
Elisabeth Shore	42	1	43	Daniel Dailey	46	0	46
Brent Goette	39	4	43	John Lebeck	43	1	44
Debbie Nielson	37	0	37	Vincent Carroll	42	2	44
Perry Buhler	36	0	36	Katherine Moulton	40	1	41
Rhonda Schmid	25	10	35	David Boomstein	40	0	40
Ray Davidson	33	1	34	Larry Page	33	3	36
Jennifer Wu	31	0	31	Retha Moulder	34	1	35
Sherre Shafer	25	3	28	Dennis Kraft	32	0	32
Denny Farmer	27	0	27	Bob Peterson	24	3	27
Janet Yiu	25	0	25	Heidi Phillips	22	3	25
Suresh Lashmipathy	24	0	24	Terry Schmid	11	0	11
Susan Beasley	21	0	21	David Adams	10	0	10
Julie Minges	17	0	17				
Steve Yauch	13	3	16				
Jennifer Dawn	12	0	12				
Gladys Dillard	9	0	9				
Dennis Rice	7	0	7				
<b>Advanced</b>				<b>Masters</b>			
Nock Wong	64	24	88	Jose Artiles	65	23	88
Nancy Mack	62	14	76	Dennis Fritsche	61	19	80
Cathy Lin	49	21	70	Linda Grigsby	65	13	78
Alan Daniel	60	6	66	Lois Lehman	63	11	74
Michael Farnham	59	4	63	Sam Wilson	59	11	70
Bud Mallar	56	7	63	Don Champlin	53	12	65
Carina Johnsson	60	1	61	Larry Petterborg	56	6	62
Wenchi Lee	57	3	60	John Lehman	57	4	61
Aaron Leshner	48	11	59	Carol Barlow	55	0	55
Linfen Hwang	57	1	58	Danette Volkmer	52	1	53
Jerry Schlesinger	54	1	55	James Stover	50	3	53
Mark Bernthal	51	0	51	Marie Hansen	49	1	50
Jim Spencer	27	6	33	Russ Mcguire	26	3	29
Ron Lin	26	6	32				

**\* 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: "Can We Talk? Ask Me Anything"

"Photography is more than a medium for factual communication of ideas. It is a creative art.", wrote Ansel Adams. Photographytalk disagrees and states "...To be perfectly honest, it's probably both". Without getting into "left brain\right brain" concepts which has been highly debunked, it is both, both communication and art.

We want to try a new approach. An approach that will allow you to talk, participate, listen, ask questions about photography. Our host and instructor will be our own Dennis Fritshce. Talk about cameras, photo software, color managements, technique, gear, printing, travel planning, back up strategies...everything photographic is on the table. Problem with an image? Bring it on a memory stick and see what we can do. Dennis stated, "If I don't know, someone else in the room will. A great place to learn something new."

Ask Me Anything begins this month at 6PM in Room 1. Unlike conventional classes, come and go as you like. Great place to hang out, great place to learn.

**Cliff McKenzie**

### Plano Photography Club Officers & Volunteers

Title	Officers & Volunteers	Email Address
President	Cliff McKenzie	<a href="mailto:ppc@planophotographyclub.com">ppc@planophotographyclub.com</a>
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/Suzanne 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 / GSCCC	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>
Contest Site Admin	Jerry Schlesinger	<a href="mailto:contestsiteadmin@planophotographyclub.com">contestsiteadmin@planophotographyclub.com</a>
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Tabletop Equipment	Suzanne Beasley	<a href="mailto:table_top@planophotographyclub.com">table_top@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Training	Dennis Fritsche	<a href="mailto:training@planophotographyclub.com">training@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Image Critiques	Larry Petterborg	<a href="mailto:lpetterborg@planophotographyclub.com">lpetterborg@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! – November 2019**

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

Visit our [Facebook page](#).



**JAMES T STOVER**

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**EDITOR**

