The FLASH!

June 2012

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com

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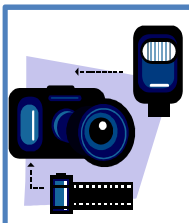
Best in Show: *Alaska Brown Bear* - By Ron Hasty

Image details: Equipment: Camera-Nikon D300; Lens-Nikkor 200-400 f4; (Except for its weight and length, I really like this lens. It is very fast and the images are particularly sharp.) Really Right Stuff tripod with a Jobu Gimbal head. Settings: Focal length 200 mm; Aperture 7.1; Shutter Speed 1/800; Exposure Compensation + 1/3; ISO 400.

Post processing in Camera Raw, Photoshop CS6, and Topaz Labs Adjust 5. A special thanks to Dennis Fritsche for his valuable suggestions.

This Alaskan Brown Bear, a larger sub species of the Grizzly, image was captured on a stream entering at the head Geographic Harbor on the Alaska Peninsula. Four of us flew on a float plane from Kodiak Island to the Coastal Explorer, a small boat with four cabins. The captain was our bear guide and his wife was the first mate and the cook. A 16 year old was the second mate who did the hard work. We went ashore on a Zodiac. It was September and the Bears were working hard on the last Salmon run of the fall. The bears were busy getting ready for the winter catching fish to eat and feeding their cubs as well as teaching the cubs to fish, so they didn't pay much attention to us. There are regulations about how close you can approach a bear. But, the bears can't read and sometimes they would stop what they were doing and come up very close. (As in, smell you and your tripod.) Out of curiosity, I guess. The captain simply said, "If you look them in the eye, run or get between the sow and her cub, you are probably dead."



Upcoming Activities

June 30, 2012 – *End of Year Party*: Setup 5:30. Dinner at 6:00. See below for details.

Other Activities of Interest

May 30 through June 25, 2012 – *Light of Tomorrow*: a joint effort of Charles C. Lai with his students at North Texas Asian Photographers' Association (NTAPA). Charles spoke to our club.

Exhibition: May 30 through June 25, 2012, Eisemann Center, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson, Texas 75082

June 23, 2012 – *Photo Exhibition and Reception by R.E. Marabito*: Ron is showing 13 Museum Wrap Canvas Prints, 4 Photo Escapes and 4 framed Prints in the sanctuary for six weeks at:

Horizon Unitarian Universalist Church
1641 West Hebron Parkway
Carrollton, TX 75018

There will be a reception on Saturday, June 23rd from 2:00 to 5:00pm
Call ahead for viewing other than during the reception.
Church: 972-492-4940 or call Mr. Marabito at 214-676-4046

July 16, August 14, September 18, 2012 – *PUG MARK PARK*: McKinney, Texas Wildlife Refuge. See John Yates for details at johnyatesphoto@mindspring.com.

Snapshots: Presented at 6:15 pm on Meeting Nights

June: John Lehman: 5 Ways to Improve Your Images Without Buying Anything

A devoted gadgeteer, John Lehman is going in a different direction to focus on creating better images without needing any new gear! He'll be drawing some of the ideas from David DuChermin's ebooks and adding some of his own. Looking at issues such as creating depth, changing your perspective and waiting for the moment he'll use some images to illustrate how these ideas and more will improve your images.

July: Ernie Tacsik: Photography 101: Understanding Color and Light – Part 2

With the May presentation of Part 1 having covered the foundation of "Light," Ernie Tacsik will focus on the other essential element of color - that of the "Observer" (both eye and camera). Digital representation of color and color models such as RGB will also be examined. For those who missed Part 1, a short 10 minute highlight encore presentation will be offered at 6:00 pm just prior to the 6:15 start of the Part 2 session.

September: Dennis Fritsche: Adobe Lightroom
October: Bud Mallar: Photoshop Elements
November: Dan Leffel: Landscape Composition

Summer Vacation!

Every year my father planned a family road trip to either the eastern or western United States. To the east were family and historic sites, but out West the rugged scenery and magnificent national parks beckoned. When I was 17 we drove from Texas to Alaska along the gravel Alcan Highway; thus, tallying our 49th state and tenth Canadian province. It was on these trips that Daddy instilled in me an interest in photography. I wish I could say that I have some great photos of the places I've been, but the truth is the images are more of a diary.

Looking through slides, super 8 film, and prints I recall wonderful times in my life—as a child with my parents and brothers, then with my husband and daughters, and, later, extended family. Recently, I enjoyed another memorable trip when my husband and I drove my mother and father to New Mexico for the annular eclipse. Daddy selected a spot where we could experience totality, and built a platform for us to mount 3 cameras to capture the eclipse. We explored Historic Route 66 attractions near Santa Rosa, NM, then, under clear skies, we snapped photos every 6 minutes to capture the progression of the moon across the sun. Our trip was a success!

Many of you will be traveling this summer, camera in hand. Whether seeking fulfillment of your artistic vision, or documenting the journey, enjoy your craft and the memories you are creating!

Carol Barlow

PSA Conference

Don't forget to register for the PSA Conference in San Francisco- September 14-23. Register before June 30 to avoid late fees. See website for details:

http://www.psa-photo.org/

End-Of-Year Party and Awards Banquet

The club's annual End-Of-Year Party and Awards Banquet is June 30th at Grace Presbyterian Church in our regular meeting room. Set up is at 5:30 and the dinner lasts from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Members and their spouses, guests, significant other, and/or date, are invited. The club will provide meat, drinks, and tableware. Please sign up at the May meeting for appetizer, salad, vegetable, or desert.

You may also bring a short slide show of no more than 3 minutes to share with members. CD or flash drive only.

FlashBack

July 1989-- Prints and slides were delivered to the judge's house. Three entries of any combination per person were allowed (though not enough beginner slides were entered for a winner.) Prints were tiny:
4 x6 minimum for beginners and 5x7 minimum for intermediate, mounted on an 8x10 mat.

Guest Speaker – *Aviation Photography - A Small Piece of the Pro-Shooter's Pie* – Jay Miller

Jay Miller is a professional aviation photo journalist with some 36 books and over a thousand published articles to his credit. He has served as the director of two major aviation museums and continues to serve on several museum boards and advisory panels. His work has earned him many awards. He is the founder of the Aero Club of Texas and the International Society for Aviation Photography. He offices out of his home in Ft. Worth. He is married with two adult daughters.

Jay will cover the basics of aviation photography, including equipment, technique, safety issues, and the variables involving various aircraft types: fixed wing, helicopters, balloons, sailplanes, etc.)

Winning Images: Beginners

Debbie Conard	**On the Fence**	1st	15
Victor Shung	**Girl Who Love Her Guitar**	2nd	14
Rajiv Karanam	**Fall Colors at the Rockies**	3rd	14
Charlie Henkle	**Dozing in the Bluebonnets**	HM	13
David Allen	**Cane Garden Bay**	HM	13
Janice Stovall	**Reflections at Coronado**	HM	14

Debbie Conard

Rajiv Karanam

Victor Shung

David Allen

Charlie Henkle

Janice Stovall

Winning Images: ADVANCED

Ron Hasty	**ALASKAN BROWN BEAR**	1st,BoS	15
Sharlott Hasty	**MOTHER AND BABY**	2nd	15
Ron Hasty	**EAGLE AT DAWN PPC_DSC6063**	3rd	14
Kent Taylor	**ALMOST HEAVEN**	HM	14
Melanie Dyer	**DADDY'S BOY**	HM	14
Sharlott Hasty	**AFRICAN SAVANNAH**	HM	14

Sharlott Hasty

Ron Hasty

Kent Taylor

Melanie Dyer

Winning Images: Masters

Ernie Tacsik	**Rude King, KINGS OF SKA!**	1st	15
Jose Artiles	**Self Portrait**	2nd	15
Jamie Hilbig	**Henna Painting**	3rd	14
Danette Volkmer	**Pensive in Pastels**	HM	13
Dennis Fritsche	**Morning Stroll**	HM	13
Larry Petterborg	**Big Wheel**	HM	13

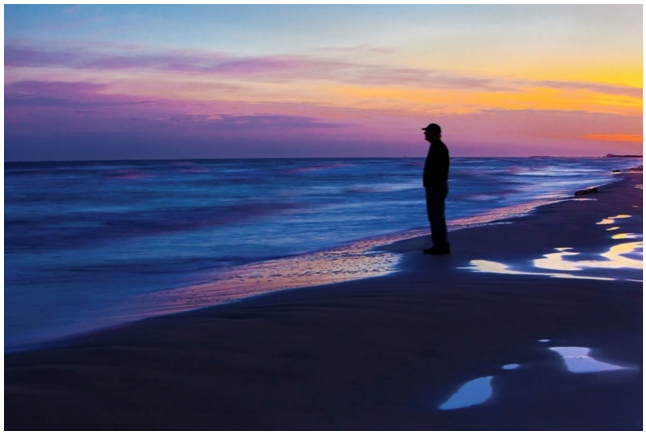
Jose Artiles

Ernie Tacsik

Larry Petterborg

Jamie Hilbig

Dennis Fritsche



Danette Volkmer

Competition Standings

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
Advanced		
Ron Hasty	34	264
Marea Downey	29	262
Sharlott Hasty	24	257
Kent Taylor	14	251
Marie Hansen	12	229
Jim Spencer	3	233
Lee Hatfield	4	230
Carol Barlow	0	232
Joe Sullivan	4	228
Stephen Finnerty	12	218
Sam Wilson	0	229
Jerry Schlesinger	0	224
Aimee Wilson	2	217
John Lovelace	1	214
Ronnie Scaggs	1	214
Linda Grigsby	9	205
Sherri Kidner	7	205
Jennifer Carrick	11	199
Bill Boyd	11	187
Tim Morgan	6	174
David Philips	11	163
Sevy Strnad	0	150
Steve Sutton	6	135
Ken Morton	7	128
Harold Walker	0	123
David Forehand	10	101
Jim Shannon	1	109
Melanie Dyer	4	104
Danny Fyffe	0	84
Roger Boulanger	5	71
Alan Mann	11	65
Willie Baker	6	61
Thomas Kerwin	0	65
Retha Moulder	0	62
Katherine Robertson	0	47
Jean Karlik	1	42
Paul Spencer	0	41
Hal Mayfield	0	24
Terree Stone	0	23
Alex Jones	0	22
Gene Domingo	0	21
Robin Graham	0	18
Chris Caho	1	14
Joe Wilson	1	14
Beginners		
Mary Petterborg	41	251
Linfen Hwang	50	235
Ming Luh	15	244
Peter Luh	22	235
Charlie Henkle	3	238
Karen Chaney	24	209
Melanie Erwin	4	193
Debbie Conard	12	178
Linda Lee Bickford	7	150
Bryan Zumbar	0	149
Leonard Margolis	0	129
Wayne Kenter	0	128
Valerie Johnson	6	87
Lisa Jackson	7	85
Rajiv Karanam	16	56
David Allen	1	63
Thinh Nguyenphu	13	42
Ming Yang	7	47
Victor Shung	6	47
Wayne Honeycutt	0	51
Saswat Patnaik	0	45
Janice Stovall	1	43
Kelli Schmidt	0	40
Mary Jean Blevins	0	39
Letty Ramos	0	32
James Haynes	1	31
Don Huddy	0	30
Luellen Adair	0	26
Vinay Rekapalli	0	26
Terri Kropp	0	25
Jesse Flores	1	23
Kurtis Allen	0	23
Gerald Newman	0	21
Jane Damon	0	21
Thomas McCallister	0	20
Clinta Williams	0	19
Gerald Newman	0	19
Tiffany James	0	18
Michael Calverley	0	7
Masters		
Dennis Fritsche	57	276
Jose Artiles	56	237
Danette Volkmer	36	254
Ernie Tacsik	17	260
Jamie Hilbig	32	242
Larry Petterborg	8	240
Peter Staxen	13	233
James Stover	3	237
John Lehman	6	203
Lois Lehman	11	144

To Compete or Not To Compete?

Each month the club conducts a competition in which points are awarded in four levels for three places and honorable mentions. Unless you are a regular competitor, contests can be intimidating, yet they can be one of the best tools for improving your photography.

The monthly subjects provide guidance for developing a vision and a stimulus for getting out to take photos and stretch your skills. Professionals and expert enthusiasts encourage us to practice, practice, practice to better our photography. When you are creating images to compete with others, suddenly, theory becomes practical.

While some would disagree, the point of competing is not to win; it's to learn and to grow. The judge's comments help you "see" with a photographer's eye. When you choose to compete, you are choosing to improve. Register at http://plano.photoclubservices.com

Competition Topic	
June	Open
July	Repetition
August	Open
Sept.	Awareness
Oct.	Prints - Open
Nov.	Unexpected Angles
Dec.	No Contest
Jan. 2013	Delicate
Feb.	Open
March	Prints - Close-Up
April	Open
May	Vanishing Point
June	Open
July	Solitude
August	Open

Plano Photography Club Officers		
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Training	Marea Downey/John Lehman	training@planophotographyclub.com

About The Club

The club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month (no meeting in December) at Grace Presbyterian Church, 4300 West Park Blvd in Plano. Visitors are welcome! Officers meet at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month (except December) at the church. Open to all members.

The club is a member of: *Gulf States Camera Club Council (GSCCC) & Photographic Society of America (PSA)*