



The FLASH!

August 2017 Vol. 33, No. 4

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



Best in Show: Mr. Peacock By Larry Petterborg

I very much enjoy photographing birds, so when it was announced that the Heard Nature Photographers Club would again be visiting the Roger's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Hutchings, TX, I was excited. We arrived at the center early on a Sunday morning in May and met with Lindsey and Simon McNeny of "Window to the Wild" to photograph some of their educational birds in flight. Afterward, we toured their "Tiny Home" currently parked at the rehab center and then wandered the grounds photographing the multitude of residents scattered around the place.

There are many peacocks at the center and at this time of the year they all seemed to be displaying their elegant plumage. To make the Mr. Peacock image, I positioned myself between the bird and his object of affection, got down to eye level and used the 50-200 mm zoom on my OM-D camera at 147 mm, 1/800 second, F5. I like to shoot in bursts when the subject is moving. The resulting file was processed in Lightroom. This visit to the center turned out better than a previous visit when I was attacked by a one-winged pelican that gave me a nasty bite on the back of my leg. No bloodshed this time.

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Upcoming Club Activities

Contact: activity@planophotographyclub.com

October 7, 2017 – Plano Photowalk – We will be participating in the Kelby Worldwide Photowalk. See below for details.

September 15-16, 2017 – Painted Churches in Schulenburg – We will be photographing churches in Schulenburg. See below for details.

November 17-19, 2017 – Fall Color Photography Trip to Beaver Bend State Park, Oklahoma – The PPC is planning a weekend trip to one of Oklahoma's most popular state parks, Beavers Bend State Park, which offers miles of hiking trails and creeks. It is difficult to predict when the fall colors will be at their best, but we are planning to go the weekend following their fall festival to avoid the crowds. A block of rooms has been reserved for our group and we have been asked to let the lodge know by June 8. There are several other hotels/cabins/state park lodge available as well. This lodge is approximately 5 miles from the state park. If you are unable to commit by June 8, continue to consider this event as there is other lodging and the Hochatown County Lodge is not requiring a prepayment but, they do have a 72 hour cancellation policy for a full refund.

6613 US 259, Broken Bow, OK 74728
580-494-6099

December 9, 2017 – Annual 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.

FLASHback: PPC Hosts 2007 GSCCC Convention

Every year the Gulf States Camera Club Council asks one of its member clubs to host its annual convention. GSCCC has ask us to consider hosting the 2018 convention. The club will be presenting information about the event and asking for feedback from club members. To give you an idea the the effort involved here is an overview of what went into hosting the convention the last time PPC was host club. I hope this trip down memory lane is informative. It is interesting to see so many familiar names.

Ten years ago Ed Auger organized the **Focus on Plano 2007** GSCCC Convention April 19 – 21 hosted by PPC. Larry Petterborg solicited guest speakers and presenters. Bernie Pysz assisted in the search for the hotel to host the convention, worked with the Plano Visitors / Convention group, and took on the catering / hotel coordination and negotiated two great meals on Friday and Saturday night. John Yates worked with Pug Mark Park and the Heard Nature Center to develop photo shoots. Ken Guthrie and his team of marshals lead two fantastic model shoots at the Cotton Mill in McKinney and Farmers Branch Historical Park. Light Tec volunteered complete lighting setups for the indoor shoot at the Cotton Mill which provided an almost unheard-of model shoot opportunity for those attending.

P.D. Killion presented a fantastic tabletop hands-on exhibition both Friday and Saturday afternoon. Ken Morton designed the convention site, imported images, created slide shows for all the photo shoot events, embedded the menus, created the sponsor page with the company logos, and created links for everything needed to register for sessions, the individual photo shoots, hotel reservations and updated the presentations page as speakers and presenters were finalized. Ken also supported the tabletop event with his water drop reflections set-ups and created the "Welcome" banner that greeted the convention attendees as they entered the hotel. He also helped secure all the food that was available in the hospitality room each day.

Eleanore Avery headed up the GSCCC end-of-year contest held Thursday evening. She orchestrated a wonderful judging and display of the images. Her presentation on Saturday was very well received. Brad Moore coordinated all audio/visual equipment needs for the end-of-year contest, all presentations and dinner activities. Vernon Winchester contacted multiple businesses and shops for donations and opened our hospitality suite at 6 AM. with coffee, bagels and muffins both mornings. He also assisted in answering questions in the hotel lobby area during both days. Sarah Scott headed up our Registration Desk and, with the assistance of Carol Stum, covered checking in the guests and making sure they were badged properly, and took in additional monies for trips and/or events that our attendees added to their schedules. Carol Barlow, designed the brochure and arranged for her husband and nephew to create the interface program to move the spreadsheet reservation information to the format required to print the badges. She also worked many hours to publicize the convention.

Irwin Lightstone arranged the Arboretum photo shoot and a presentation on Macro Photography. Bob Frank made an inspiring presentation on small insect macro photography. Cindy Vaillancourt arranged the photo shoots at the Heritage Farmstead. Jack Durnin lead the Historic Plano tour, explaining the sites, pointing out the historic houses and providing detailed information about the Interurban railroad and the museum. Katherine Robertson helped us out on the information desk and helped tremendously at the Friday tabletop event with beautiful flowers for our attendees to photograph. Ed Maxwell and James Stover became our "Go To" guys, giving support to almost every area during the three days. Dave Lerry helped with the vendors, prizes, picked up the registrations that arrived via mail, and all the other trips around town. Numerous other club members volunteered their time to staff the registration desk, the information desk and the hospitality suite, help in the tabletop both days and assistance in preparing the "Welcome Bags" for our guests.



Plano Photowalk

The Plano Photography Club activity for October will be participation in the Kelby Worldwide Photowalk. We did this as an activity in 2014. We will meet in McCall Plaza, 998 East 15th St. in downtown Plano at 9 AM on Saturday, October 7. We will take a walking tour following a loop of about one and a quarter miles that visits some of the 100-year-old homes and other historical buildings around downtown Plano. Then we will meet for lunch in a downtown Plano restaurant Urban Crust (Pizza).

Some of the possible photography subjects we'll encounter:

- The Railcar at the Interurban Museum
- Fountains and bridges in Haggard Park
- Public art in Haggard Park and elsewhere
- Century-old houses in Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, and other styles, often with ornate embellishments
- Architectural details of other buildings
- Church steeples and bells
- Street activity in downtown Plano
- Halloween decorations
- DART rail line equipment.

Prizes are available for those who register with KelbyOne and submit images to their contest following the walk. Registration with KelbyOne is not a requirement. Club members are welcome to join the walk either way. There will also be non-club members who join us, so this is a good opportunity to meet some new people and invite them to the PPC!

Here is a link to register on the Kelby Worldwide Photowalk website:

<http://worldwidephotowalk.com/walk/plano-historic-district/>

Courtesy Critique

If you have an image you think is pretty good, but you would like the opinion of someone else before entering it in the PPC competition, you may take advantage of a simple and free way of getting an image critiqued by Master level photographers. Send the image to Larry Petterborg:

lpetterborg@planophotographyclub.com

Larry sends your image anonymously to two or three master photographers and returns their critiques to you. Please ensure your image observes the Image Guidelines and send no more than one image at a time. This service is for club members only.

Painted Churches In Schulenburg

English, German, Czech and other European citizens settled in this area bringing with them their religious beliefs, tools and way of life. The PPC will spend September 16, beginning in the morning, touring the beautiful and colorful churches built in this area. Schulenburg is approximately 4 hours from Dallas, requiring an overnight stay.

There are four churches clustered in the Schulenburg area which requires driving to get to. We will meet at 9 AM at the Schulenburg Chamber of Commerce located at 618 North Main Street. We can then car pool to the churches. With additional driving, there are other churches that can be visited if desired. The following link shows a map of where the churches are located.

<http://www.klru.org/paintedchurches/dubina.html>

Hotel reservations are to be made individually at the area hotels. The chamber of commerce web address has a list of hotels. <http://schulenburgchamber.org/tours/churches/>

Guest Speakers – “Flipboard – Terry Porter

I've been taking photographs for almost 20 years, and have nearly 7000 images on Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/TPorter2006>

I am a self-taught photographer, but married to someone who worked in the camera industry for 20+ years. I tend to take photos with graphic appeal, and particularly nautical photography. My photos have been published in local newspapers and USA Today.

I've been using Flipboard since 2011, and have been curating magazines there since they were introduced in 2013. I am a part of their Influencer program called "Flipboard Ambassadors". <https://flipboard.com/@TPorter2>

I think Flipboard is a great resource for photographers, and I want to show you how to use this wonderful free app! My hope is you will soon be flipping your own photos into a useful and shareable photo portfolio magazine on Flipboard.



June Winning Images – Open

Masters

Larry Petterborg	Mr. Peacock	15	1st,BOS
John Lehman	Tom	14	2nd
Linda Grigsby	Eilean Doran Castle	13	3rd
Danette Volkmer	Reflections on Vail	13	HM
Dennis Fritsche	Fishing Above the Falls	13	HM

Advanced

Wenchi Lee	Sunset in Sunflower Field	14	1st
Randall Dunn	Cedar Cemetery	14	2nd
Linfen Hwang	Standing Tall	13	3rd
Walter Brock	Killdeer in flight	12	HM

Intermediate

Mary Jean Blevins	After the "I Do's"	14	1st
Earl Snoga	Bird of Paradise	13	2nd
Richard Otto	Cathedral of Learning	13	3rd
Alan Daniel	Waiting for Rain	12	HM
Paul Gray	The Lounge Singer	12	HM

Entry

Todd Matthews	Calm After the Storm	13	1st
Loretta Griffin	Beautiful Bee	12	2nd
Anna Faingold	At an endless window	11	3rd
Nock Wong	Momument Valley	11	HM



Todd Matthews



Loretta Griffin



Anna Faingold



Nock Wong





Mary Jean Blevins



Earl Snoga



Richard Otto



Alan Daniel



Paul Gray



Wenchi Lee





**Randall
Dunn**



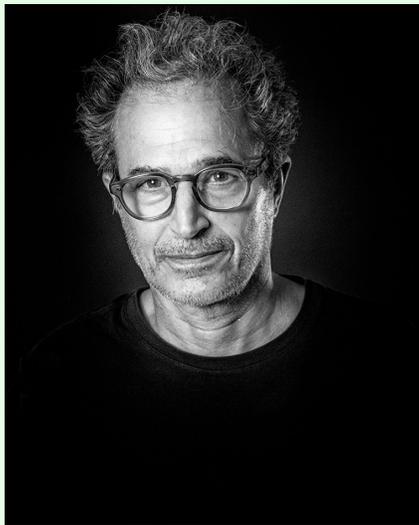
**Linfen
Hwang**



**Walter
Brock**



Linda Grigsby



John Lehman



Danette Volkmer

**Dennis
Fritsche**





President's Message: Solar Eclipse

We have a partial solar eclipse in our area on August 21st. If you are planning to photograph the total eclipse, here are a few tips:

- **DO NOT USE A FLASH OF ANY KIND!** You will ruin the dark adaptation of everyone's eyes, and will spoil the show for them all!!
- Use a tripod if you have one - if you don't have one, buy one!
- Use a long lens so that you'll actually see something - standard point-and-shoot cameras will make the sun's image way too small. You will need at LEAST a 300mm focal length lens. (Test it out on the full moon - which is about the same size as the sun - to check your results.)
- Change ALL your equipment's batteries to fresh ones 30 minutes before totality, so you don't run out!
- Use small, white wash cloths to cover your cameras so they don't get hot from sitting in the direct sun (and wear a hat yourself!).
- Use the proper, correct solar filters which you must purchase especially for the purpose. **DO NOT** try to photograph the eclipse or look at the sun without proper filters or you will ruin your camera and/or eyes.
- If you are traveling to an area where the eclipse is total, **USE YOUR SOLAR FILTERS while the eclipse is not total, and DON'T use filters while the eclipse is total. Remove the solar filter as soon as the sun enters totality. Reattach them as soon as totality ends, about 2 minutes later. Attach them with a string so they can be removed quickly and not get lost. DURING TOTALITY ONLY, it is perfectly safe to look directly at the FULLY eclipsed Sun! If you do not have proper solar filters for your camera equipment, DO NOT attempt to take pictures of the eclipse!**

Tips courtesy of Eclipse2017.org. If you would like more tips or information, please go to their website. Schimelpfenig library will be hosting a Space Storytime & Solar Eclipse Viewing with special eclipse glasses at 11 AM. Free tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis 30 minutes before the program.

Richard Vestyck

Plano Photography Club Officers & Volunteers

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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 \(PSA\)](#)



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JAMES T STOVER

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EDITOR

