



The FLASH!

March 2015

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



Best in Show: ~ *The Fall of Number 5*-By James Walsh

Light is a particular challenge in a night race, and while the lighting at the track was good, it still took time to adjust and determine the best mix of settings for shutter speed and ISO. I had taken over a hundred exposures prior to the beginning of this particular race and this gave me a good feel for the settings that would produce the results I wanted.

The starting gate for this quarter horse race was set up on a straightaway to the far left of the grandstand at about the point where the track turns into the home stretch. I set up the tripod probably 20 to 25 feet from the starting gate in order to get a closeup of the horses coming out of the gate. An added advantage of this location was the dark, unobstructed background at this point on the track.

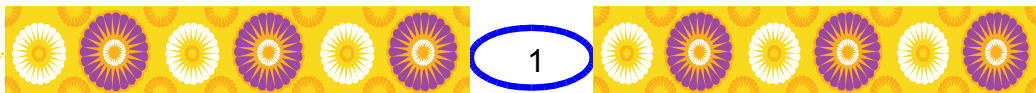
My Nikon D810 was set on Shutter priority at 1/500 sec with an ISO of 6400 using a Nikkor 70-200 mm f2.8 lens set at 86 mm. The camera was on continuous release mode at 5 fps.

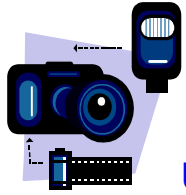
The Number 5 horse tripped up almost immediately out of the gate and the frame submitted to the contest was exposed within the first two or three seconds of the race. I knew that I had captured something out of the ordinary, but didn't realize until I started processing it in Lightroom exactly what I had.

Since I can't take credit for posing the horse and the jockey, I have to acknowledge that being in the right place at the right time was a key factor. But I think that often plays a role in photojournalism, especially where sport is involved. So I'll take it.

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Upcoming Club Activities

March 19, 6:15 PM – *Snapshots!* Ask The Experts. If you have a question about photography, technical or general, please submit to Bud Mallar at bmallar@sbcglobal.net, and he will 'find' an expert to address your subject at this session. Questions may also be raised by the attendees during the session. The session will be held in the Library of our new meeting facility, the West Plano Presbyterian Church at 2709 Custer Road in Plano.

March 21, 10 AM - 1 PM – *Lightroom Training Part 2* at the Schimelpfenig Library on Custer Road in Plano, taught by Dennis Fritsche. The Goals for this class are:

Understand how to use the global and local tools in the Develop Module.

Understand the time savers – presets, sync and auto sync.

Learn where to go for help.

Learn to export to jpeg and tiff and to print.

This is a 'hands on' opportunity. Attendees should bring their laptops, with LR5 installed.

You must also bring some 'raw' images so you can load them in and process them in LR. For those who sign up, we will re-forward the instructions from Dennis to download the DropBox images he will be working with so you can all be on the 'image'.

March 28-29 – *Caddo Lake*. Canceled because of high water. It will be rescheduled in the fall.

April 11, 11 AM - 4 pm – *Car Show* in the parking lot of Heights Baptist Church, 201 West Renner Road, Richardson

April – *Photoshop Training Part 1* taught by Bud Barlow

April – *Dallas Zoo Scavenger Hunt*

May – *Photoshop Training Part 2* taught by Bud Barlow

May – *People Photography Shoot* at park near Schimelpfenig Library

June – *Thoroughbred Racing* at Lonestar Park

June – *End-of-Year Club Party*

July – *RoughRiders Baseball Game* at Dr Pepper Stadium in Frisco

August – *Tabletop Photography Workshop*

September 18-20 – *Plano Balloon Festival*

October – *Polo* at Prestonwood Polo Club

November – *Hagerman Wildlife Refuge*

December – *Holiday Party*

Other activities which may be planned through this year include:

- Dallas Skyline and Hunt Bridge at night
- Rugby (Dallas Harlequins) - new season has already started and ends June
- CTC Auto Ranch (vintage automobile salvage yard, just north of Denton)
- Fossil Rim/Glen Rose - optional overnight (late November or early December)
- DFW Auto Show- March 25-29 at Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center (formerly, the Dallas Convention Center)
- Wurstfest in New Braunfels (overnight trip in November)
- Austin & McKinney Falls State Park
- John Bunker Sands Wetland - open to visitors 1st and 3rd Saturdays or by appointment- near Dallas
- Frontier Flight Museum (Love Field)/Cavanaugh Flight Museum (Addison)
- Astrophotography with Mike Mezeul
- Waxahachie Gingerbread Trail Festival



PPC Winners in the Gulf States Camera Club Council Competitions!

In the February GSCCC Nature competition, Sharlott Hasty's image "Snow Monkey in the Snow" placed third. Congratulations, Sharlott! Nice work!

Guest Speaker – Top Ten List for Photographing Pets – Teresa Berg

Teresa Berg is a nationally recognized photographer and author with more than 20 years of professional photography experience. She specializes in artistic baby, pet and family portraits. And she donates much of her time to animal rescue and many Texas children's charities.

Her work has been featured on the CBS Early Show, CBS Sunday Morning, The Today Show online, BBC Radio, The Dallas Morning News, The Toronto Star, Professional Photographer Magazine, Country Living Magazine, and many other publications.

She co-authored DOG SHOTS | Tips & Tricks for Pet Photographers, which serves as a guide for helping professional photographers. Also, she offers webinars for both pros and amateurs on photographing dogs, as well as sharing her efforts with animal rescue groups. She co-founded and instructs at Unleashed | Fine art pet photography workshops.

Teresa is a graduate of The Elkins Institute of Photography and a member of the Professional Photographers of America and the National Association of Photoshop Professionals.

Richardson Photo Contest

Results of the annual Richardson Photo Contest were announced on January 30. Several Plano Photography Club members received awards.

Linda Grigsby, 1st place for "Athens Marketplace" in the category Back to Black and White, Proficient Division

JD Luttmer, 1st place for "National Camp Falls" in the category Wonderful Waterscapes, Proficient Division

Sam Wilson, 2nd place, "All the King's Horses, and All the King's Men, Couldn't ..." in the category Experimental/Enhanced, Proficient Division

Debbie Conard, 3rd place for "The Shadow Knows" in the category Texas Pride, Adult Division

Linda Grigsby, 3rd place for "Dallas Evening Scenic" in the category Cityscape/Architecture, Proficient Division

Ron Marabito, 3rd place for "Lonely Bush - Antelope Canyon" in the category Back to Black and White, Proficient Division

Sam Wilson, 3rd place for "Keep Your Eyes on the Ball" in the category Sports & Action, Proficient Division

Debbie Conard, Honorable Mention for "Where There's Smoke" in the category Photojournalism, Adult Division



380 Guide Magazine

Ming Yang has had a photo from our Polo Match activity selected by the Prestonwood Polo and Country Club for the cover of 380 Guide Magazine.

Look for it at:
<http://www.380guide.com/>.

Congratulations, Ming!

January's Winning Images – Photojournalism

Masters				Advanced			
Larry Petterborg	Ride-Um Cowboy	15	1st	Don Champlin	Thank You	15	1st
Dennis Fritsche	The Cowboy Way	14	2nd	Jerry Schlesinger	Desperation- Strait of Gibraltar	13	2nd
John Lehman	Checkmate	13	3rd	Jim Spencer	Junior Ranger	12	3rd
Jose Artiles	Crash Landing (...and nobody got hurt.)	12	HM	Sam Wilson	Skydiving at the Plano Balloon Festival	11	HM
Intermediate				Beginners			
James Walsh	The Fall of Number 5	15	1st,Bos	Vincent Carroll	New York City: Statue of Etruscan warrior at Metropolitan Museum discovered to be fake.	14	1st
Bryan Zumbar	Holiday at the National Cemetery	14	2nd	Aaron Lesher	Cantwell Cracks Bat	13	2nd
Valerie Johnson	Woman and chicken watch passing traffic in St. Thomas.	13	3rd	Randy Ratzlaff	A Fresh Fish Auction on the Beach in Nazare, Portugal	12	3rd



Vincent Carroll



Aaron Lesher



Randy Ratzlaff



Bryan Zumbar





Valerie Johnson



Don Champlin



Jerry Schlesinger



Jim Spencer



Sam Wilson





Larry Petterborg



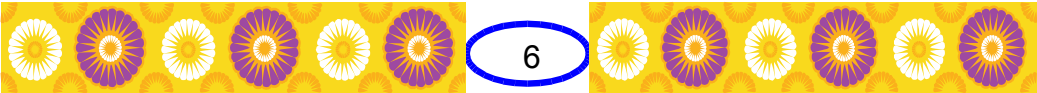
Dennis Fritsche



John Lehman



Jose Artiles



Competition Topic

March	Vintage (Print)	June	Open	September	Softness	December	No Competition
April	Open	July	Surprise Topic (TBD)	October	Open	January (2016)	Photojournalism
May	Entrances	August	Open	November	Abstract	February	Open

Competition Standings

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
Beginners			Intermediate		
Armstrong, Brenda	23	83	Edward, James	39	88
Warren, Lulu	20	73	Henkle, Charlie	26	91
Lesh, Aaron	24	63	Lin, Ron	24	86
Johnston, Leslie	12	69	Walsh, Jim	15	93
Davenport, Janet	12	67	Zumbar, Brvan	13	90
Hwang, Jack	20	47	Yana, Mina	10	79
Carroll, Vincent	12	53	Berry, Jim	2	81
Ratzlaff, Randy	14	46	Johnson, Valerie	10	72
Lin, Cathv	0	59	Kenter, Wavne	1	75
Manum, Joyce	9	48	Stiles, Parvin	0	67
Griffin, Lori	0	53	Roldan, Oscar	14	51
Conard, Debbie	7	39	Scaas, Ronnie	0	57
Blevins, Marv Jean	3	22	Goode, Jav	3	42
Newman, Jerv	0	18	DeRouen, Robin	7	35
Chen, Kevin	3	13	Havnes, James	0	29
Mack, Nancy	1	13	Sullivan, Joe	0	24
Mays, Fred	0	8	Maurer, Greg	0	19
Clark, Marilia	0	7	Moulder, Retha	0	19
			Blackwell, Larry	0	16
			Thweatt, Susan	0	13
			Henric, Brian	0	11
			Petermann, Steve	0	10
Advanced			Masters		
Champlin, Don	62	112	Fritsche, Dennis	29	110
Wilson, Sam	17	93	Petterborg, Larry	31	99
Barlow, Carol	10	82	Hastv, Sharlott	23	96
Barlow, Bud	7	85	Volkmer, Danette	15	100
Hwang, Linfen	12	77	Lehman, John	14	97
Schlesinger, Jerv	7	81	Artiles, Jose	13	95
Spencer, Jim	3	83	Downey, Marea	10	97
Shannon, Jim	10	67	McGuire, Russell	7	90
Chaney, Karen	8	62	Griasby, Linda	11	81
Mallar, Bud	1	66	Hastv, Ron	0	92
Lichtstone, Irwin	16	45	Hatfield, Lee	1	90
Prestemon, Brian	11	46	Carrick, Jennifer	6	83
Morton, Ken	0	45	Hansen, Marie	3	82
Wilson, Aimee	0	20	Stover, James	0	80
			Lehman, Lois	1	71
			Staxen, Peter	1	65



**Box Camera
Portrait**

President's Message: *Box Cameras*

Last month I mentioned a "vintage" photography book: The Amateur Photographer's Handbook, by Aaron Sussman, first published in 1941. In a chapter titled, "What Camera Shall I Get?" Aaron makes the point, still valid today, that it isn't your camera that plays the biggest role in determining the quality of your photographs. He makes an intriguing claim: "I have a hunch there would be more Cartier-Bressons, Edward Westons, Ansel Adamses and Edward Steichens if we all had to start with a box camera and prove we could use that well, before we were allowed to touch another camera."

Of course, only an antique shop will sell you a box camera these days. However, what you can do - and I think this is worth doing - is set your camera up to act like a box camera. Put on a 28mm lens, or adjust your zoom to 28mm. Set the focus to about 15 feet. Put the dial on M, the Aperture to 8.0 and ISO to 200. Set your shutter speed to either 1/25 or 1/50, depending on the light. Now, don't touch the controls, and take some pictures. Keep your subject at least 8 feet from the camera; everything at that distance and farther will be sharp. Avoid bright sunlight and dim indoor settings. Practice until you get an idea of what level of light gives you a good exposure. Then go take some great photos, with your "box camera!"

- Sam Wilson

Plano Photography Club Officers

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About The Club

The club meets at 7 PM the third Thursday of each month (no meeting in December) at West Plano Presbyterian Church 2709 Custer Road, Plano TX. Visitors are welcome! Officers meet at 7 PM on the second Monday of each month (except December) at a location to be announced. 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