



# REFLEX NEWS

Houston Photochrome Club  
Volume XLII No. 8

www.houstonphotochromeclub.org

August 2009



Photo by Billy Bui Vietnam

## PROGRAM for AUGUST

The August 2009 program on photography in Asia (Vietnam and Cambodia) will be presented by Billy Bui, a member of the Far East Photography Tours and Houston Chinese Photographic Society

Billy Bui a native of Vietnam, his current passion is photographing Asia and experiencing the culture which is so different from the Western world. Realizing that there are many wonderful places in this world, and too little time to see everything, it is his goal to fully capture the highlights of these countries in his photos and to share this with others. Furthermore, Billy Bui hopes to inspire everyone to explore new worlds and cultures.

We will meet on Thursday August 13 at 7:00 PM at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive, which is one block inside Beltway 8 between Westpark, and Richmond. *Scott Brooks*

## Nominating Committee

Every year at this time, in accordance with our club's constitution, the president appoints a nominating committee to select candidates for the club's elected offices. President Mark Farrior is pleased to announce that the following individuals have volunteered to serve our club in this capacity: Ray Bookwalter, Ken Carfagno, and Don Pederson.

The committee has submitted the following list of nominees for the coming year: President, Joe Smith; Vice president, Ray Bookwalter; Secretary, Cindy Cox; Treasurer, Carmen Sewell.

The election of officers will take place at the September meeting.

## Wayne Nicholas

Nature Photographer, Friend and former member of Houston Photochrome Club, Wayne Nicholas, succumbed to complications of Swine Flu on July 26.

Wayne was a superb nature photographer and his images of birds were spectacular. He was extremely generous with his knowledge of both digital photography and nature and the sharing of his expertise while this club was integrating digital photography. We will miss him and his wonderful images. Plans for a memorial service are pending for later in the fall.

# August Workshop

## *Layers for People Who Don't Use Layers*

by William Burychka

This is an encore presentation of a session done two years in a row and is being brought back by popular demand and for the benefit of those who missed it. Its purpose is to persuade those who edit, adjust, repair, or otherwise do things to their digital images, to start doing those things using layers.

Editing with layers preserves your original images without making copies. It allows you to have one image file for both color and monochrome versions. It allows you to go back and change your mind about changes to your photos. Editing with layers gives you a safety net.

This program is for you, if you don't use layers but do use:

***Levels, Curves, Hue & Saturation , Clone Stamp Tool, Healing Brush, Selective Color, Brightness & Contrast, Gradients, and Certain other functions.***

All the above can, and in most cases should, be done on separate layers. If you're not doing that, please come to the meeting...and from now on, I can almost guarantee you will.

If you're already using layers for these things, then we won't have much for you ***"For users who want a bit more, Rachel Burychka will introduce the concept of layer masks for selective adjustments. Taking layers to the next level, if you will."***

It will be using Photoshop CS3 for demo, but the things I'll do work with earlier and later versions of Photoshop as well as with

Photoshop Elements. I'll have a selection of sample images for demonstration, but if you have a photo you'd like to see used in the demo, feel free to bring it on USB flash memory.

Oh, and also please bring a pad and pencil.

W.M. Burychka

We will meet on Thursday August 27 at 7:00 PM at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive, which is one block inside Beltway 8 between Westpark, and Richmond.

## AUGUST FIELD TRIP

We will be taking a 'summer vacation' for August. Regular trips will start again in September

## JULY FIELD TRIP

I would like to thank everybody that braved the July heat and humidity and went to our Nelson Water Garden field trip last month.

For your effort, we are going to have our annual Nelson Water Garden Field Trip Photo Competition. It is open for anybody that went to the field trip. Please email a maximum of three entries per person to Philip Tan at:

[ptanhoutex@earthlink.net](mailto:ptanhoutex@earthlink.net)

by August 15. The images will be judged by an independent judge, Please do not submit images that were not taken on the July 2009 field trip.

To show our appreciation to Mr. Rolf Nelson for allowing us to have our field trip in his place and to let us in earlier than his normal business hours, we are going to present him with a printed image of the first place winner.

In addition, the first, second and third place winners will also get a printed image of their winning entries. Keep this in mind when submitting your entries: please keep/do not delete your final edited images (before resizing for email) intact. This will make printing the images much easier. Contact me about this issue should you have any question.

## Annual Banquet Date and Venue Set

The date of our annual banquet will be Saturday, September 26. Like last year, the venue will be Christie's Seafood and Steaks. Family owned and operated since 1917, Christie's is one of the oldest restaurants in the city. Christie's is located at 6029 Westheimer at Greenridge, between Fountainview and Hillcroft.

Please save this date on your calendar. The evening's events include an after-dinner show of the very best intra-club competition images from our members. Please complete the reservation form on page 5 of this issue and mail or bring to the August meeting. *Mark Farior*

## DUES ARE DUE

It's that time again. Membership dues are payable now to the Treasurer. In this issue there is a membership form **on page 4 for you to print.**

The annual dues are:

\$25.00 for individuals,

\$29.00 for a family, and a special rate of

\$21.00 for senior citizens (age 65 and over) and students (high school level and below).

\$25.00 for senior families

Mail your form and check to:

**Carmen Sewell**

**114 Townsend Mill Court,  
Houston, TX 77094**



## Directory Cover Photo

It is time for the new edition of the directory to get started and I need some cover photos. If you have an image that you would like to submit please do so to me at [csewell3@comcast.net](mailto:csewell3@comcast.net) If you have had a cover in the past you are still eligible

## COMPETITION ASSIGNMENTS

2009

	Nature	Pictorial
August	Backlit/ Silhouette	Blurred
September	Patterns & Textures	Lights at Night
October	Seascapes	Sunrise/Sunset
November	Landscapes with Wildlife	People at Work
December	Natural Sculptures	Montage/Manipulation

Cookies for August

Cindy Cox

I am looking for both Nature and Pictorial images BUT the image must be a vertical and preferably with some space for text. If you are in doubt about the suitability of an image then submit anyway and let me make the decision.

For selection purposes send small files. When I have chosen the two for use I will ask for .tif or high quality .jpg files for the printing. Please limit your submissions to 3 nature and 3 pictorial. Deadline for images is October 1, 2009. Editor

# Annual Dues Payment for 2009 – 2010

Dues are payable in July and are to be collected by the Treasurer.  
To be eligible for competition, dues must be current. Please complete this form and return it along with your check payable to:

**Houston Photochrome Club.**

**Return to: Carmen Sewell  
114 Townsend Mill Court  
Houston, TX 77094**

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_ PSA member: yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_  
PSA Honors: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: If any of the above information changes in the course of the year, please notify the Membership Chairman as soon as possible so that you can be kept informed on club activities.**

Annual dues are:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 per individual

\_\_\_\_\_ \$29.00 per family

\_\_\_\_\_ \$21.00 for senior citizens (65 and over) and students (high school level and below).

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 per year for Senior families

(Office use only)

Date paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amt \_\_\_\_\_

# 2009 Houston Photochrome Club Banquet

## Menu and Reservation Form

Please complete one reservation form for each attendee as soon as possible & submit, along with payment ( payable to "Houston Photochrome Club") to Carmen Sewell, 114 Townsend Mill Court, Houston, TX 77094 or turn it in at the meeting.

Attendee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Special dietary needs / requests: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Check One)

**Vegetarian .....\$23.00 per person**

- House salad *Italian*
- Assorted vegetables with pasta and stuffed grape leaves with rice in olive oil.
- French rolls
- White and dark chocolate mousse cake

**Tuscan Chicken .....\$29.00 per person**

- House salad *Italian*
- Char-grilled chicken breast topped with fresh herbs in a roasted marinara sauce.
- Garlic mashed potatoes, mixed fresh steamed vegetables, French rolls
- White and dark chocolate mousse cake

**Snapper Acapulco.....\$39.00 per person**

- House Salad *Italian*
- Grilled snapper filet topped with lump crabmeat, cilantro, Roma tomatoes in a light cream sauce.
- Garlic mashed potatoes, mixed fresh steamed vegetables, French rolls
- White and dark chocolate mousse cake

**12 oz. Ribeye Steak.....\$45.00 per person**

- House Salad *Italian*
- Char-grilled 12 oz ribeye steak, topped with fresh sautéed mushrooms.
- Garlic mashed potatoes, mixed fresh steamed vegetables, French rolls
- White and dark chocolate mousse cake

**Beverages: Iced Tea, Coffee, Soft Drinks**  
Prices include beverages listed above, tax and gratuity.

**\*\*\* CASH BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE \*\*\***

# July 2009 COMPETITION

Judges: Ray Bookwalter, Helen Pan, Dianne Segerstrom

## Nature Assignment – Cacti

New	Gerard Gaal	20.0
Claret Cup	Jane Ashley	19.0
Sticking Point	Carmen Sewell	19.0
Red Cacti	Cliff Segerstrom	17.0
Cactus Blossom and Rain Drops	Joe Smith	17.0
Cacti Stickers	Ron Towe	17.0
Cactus Ball	Ninfa Palazzolo	15.0
<b>7 entries</b>	<b>17.7 avg.</b>	

## Pictorial Assignment Spot of Red

Painting Red	Jerry Pan	21.0
Rose Breasted Grosbeak	Don Pederson	21.0
Red Spot on Woodpecker	Jennifer Wen	21.0

Spot of Red	John Breaux	19.0
Redhead	Scott Meyer	19.0
Sign of Times	Ron Towe	19.0
In the Barn	Charleen Baugh	18.0
Judy in Red	Carmen Sewell	18.0
Salt Marsh	Helen Weng Pan	18.0
Red Jacket	Jane Ashley	17.0
Fall Survivors	Downs Matthews	17.0
Tall Ship 0028	Dianne Segerstrom	17.0
Texana	Joe Smith	16.0
Only One	Eric Westling	16.0
Buoy #6	Ninfa Palazzolo	15.0
Day's Work Done	Cliff Segerstrom	14.0
<b>16 entries</b>	<b>17.9 avg.</b>	

## Black and White

Monument Valley	Carmen Sewell	21.0
Early Morn, Cades Cove	Jane Ashley	20.0
Cross Bells	John Breaux	18.0
Solitude	Ninfa Palazzolo	18.0
Light	Cliff Segerstrom	18.0
Sick Raccoon	Joe Smith	18.0
Last Light on Half Dome	Scott Meyer	18.0
Temple Corridor	Helen Weng Pan	18.0
Peggy's Cove 0097	Dianne Segerstrom	15.0
Sticker	Ron Towe	14.0
<b>10 entries</b>	<b>17.9 avg.</b>	

## Nature General

Sunrise	Helen Pan	26.0
Egret Talking	Jerry Pan	26.0
Tanager	Scott Meyer	23.0
Oxbow Bend	Carmen Sewell	21.0
Common Yellowthroat	Joe Smith	21.0
Frog on Frog	John Breaux	20.0
Sedona Moon	Charleen Baugh	19.0
Relax We Caught You	Don Pederson	18.0
Tufas 4893	Dianne Segerstrom	18.0
Rose Breasted Grosbeak	Cindy Cox	17.0
<b>10 entries</b>	<b>20.9 avg.</b>	

## Pictorial General

Mr. Kellison's Barn	Jane Ashley	22.0
Waterlily	Scott Meyer	22.0
Sunset on the Fred Hartmen	Philip Tan	22.0
Moonrise 4913	Charleen Baugh	21.0
Seagull at Iceberg	Jerry Pan	21.0
Sunrise Fishing	Jennifer Wen	21.0
Blooming Cacti	Eric Westling	21.0
Drying Noodle	Helen Pan	20.0
Butterfly 2	Philip Tan	20.0
Iron of Color	John Breaux	19.0
Romeo	Don Pederson	19.0
American Goldfinch	Cindy Cox	18.0
Sierra View	Dianne Segerstrom	18.0
Shaded Lotus Blossom	Jennifer Wen	18.0
Boats and Buoys	Ninfa Palazzolo	17.0
Lone Star	Eric Westling	17.0
Rough Agave	Downs Matthews	15.0
Building Houston	Ron Towe	15.0
<b>18 entries</b>	<b>19.2 avg.</b>	

## August Assignments

Nature – Backlit/Silhouette  
Pictorial – Blurred

July entries – 61  
July average – 18.7

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>JUDGES FOR AUGUST</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Charleen Baugh, Ron Towe, Carmen Sewell</p>
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# COMPETITION ASSIGNMENTS

## August 2009

### **Nature** - Backlit/ Silhouette

In backlit subjects, the subject is between the light source and the camera. Create images that are lit from the back side of the subject and / or that are in silhouette. Not all silhouette images are necessarily back lit, and not all back lit images are in silhouette. Therefore, these co-assignments need not be both present in the submitted image. As with all nature competition submissions, people, evidence of the “hand of man”, domesticated animals, cultivated flowers or cultivated plants cannot be visible in your entries

**Pictorial— Blurred** - This is not referring to selective focus with a blurred background. This assignment is where the subject or whole picture is blurred. Examples include but are not limited to: blowing flowers, bicycles in motion, images taken through rain, etc.

## Looking ahead to September

**Nature – Patterns & Textures** -Photographs which depict any of the many patterns and textures found in nature. Spider webs, a turtle’s shell, the bark of a tree, are examples. Textures are often close ups of a pattern, like the surface of a leaf or the skin of a fish or fruit. The possibilities of subject matter are almost endless

**Pictorial— .Lights at Night-** These are nighttime shots where lights are the subject matter or a major contributor to the image. Lights may be manmade (neon, blurred autos’ taillights, fireworks, holiday lights,) or natural (moonlight, star trails)

### Deadline for digital submission...

All digital entries must be sent to [Cliff Segerstrom](mailto:cseger@sbcglobal.net) [\\_cseger@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cseger@sbcglobal.net) by Aug 9. Entries received after that will not be eligible for August competition.

FYI... the deadline is always the Sunday before the regular monthly meeting.

## ATTENTION:

### All Competition Participants

Images **must** be submitted according to club guidelines or your image may not be included in the monthly competition Please follow the sizing instructions carefully:

A **horizontal image** cannot be longer than **1024 pixels along the horizontal side;**

A **vertical image** cannot be longer than **768 pixels along the vertical side.**

( Vertical images cannot be sized 1024 pixels along the vertical side!)

The size of the JPEG image needs to be **less than 300 KB** Rename the image according to the guidelines below.

It is important that the guidelines for naming files be followed when submitting images for the monthly competitions otherwise you run the risk of not being credited with your entries. Images that are not easily identified will be discarded.

To refresh your memory the file labels should have the category initials first, image name second and the last name and first initial last. For example: A Nature Assignment of birds by John Brown would appear as

NA\_Bird\_BrownJ.jpg

First names only, nicknames or initials will not suffice for identification.

Also, use the **shortest title** possible when naming slides.

**Full guidelines are found in both the 2008 and 2009 Membership Directories and on the website.**

# MEMBER SHOWCASE



Top Left: **Carmen Shooting the Sand Dunes**

By Jane Ashley

Right: **Wimberly Glass**

By Carmen Sewell

Below Left: **Working Ranch**

By Joe Smith



**Notice of Copyright:** All photographs appearing in this publication belong exclusively to the photographer and may not be downloaded or used in any form without the express permission of that photographer.

Editor.

# MEMBER SHOWCASE



Top: Lotus Flower  
By Philip Tan

Right: **Headwaters of the  
Arkansas River**  
By Don Pederson



Each month Reflex News will publish some of our members favorite shots **which have not been used in competition** in the Members Showcase. Requirements for submission are found on page 11 of this issue.

## Helpful Tips for the New Competition Year *by Jane Ashley*

Each year at this time of year when lists have gone out on the years entries, and members are trying to find their images they've entered during the year, I inevitably have questions from various people. Some folks have numbers assigned to their images that help them determine when the photo was taken, where, etc. and without that # they have no clue where the image is.

Occasionally I've been known to leave that # off when recording, although I try to remember to record them. Some have written and said they thought they'd put an image in nature and I had it listed as pictorial or vice versa. Others have said they couldn't tell from the name on the list what the image was and would I look at the thumbnail and describe it to them, or they have several images that are similar and they don't remember which one they entered, or they've given multiple images the same name and now don't know which one was the one that got 27 points and which one got 19, etc.

Here is a simple way I have found for eliminating these problems. In August when our new judging year begins, I create a new folder, and name it HPC 2009-2010 entries. Each month when I've processed my entries for the month, labeled, sized and named them and sent them in to the competition, I also copy each image into that folder. It only takes seconds. During the year it's very easy to open that folder and see at a glance if I've entered an image previously, or if I've already named another image the same thing. At the end of the year, I've got them all in one place, already named and sized, and ready to copy to a CD or send to the person handling the judging. No hunting through multiple folders and trips, no looking for numbers, no guessing about which image I used.

Just thought I'd pass this on and maybe it'll make things a little easier for you next year.

***Another tip: Save a .tif file at the same time for possible entry into the Image of the year award.***

## Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Photo Contest

We would like to invite you and your fellow members of the Houston Photochrome Club to participate in Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Photo Contest. Attached are copies of the flyer and the rules for the photo contest – “Focus On Texas Wildlife” - which is now underway.

All photos must be received by October 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm CST, with judging taking place October 3<sup>rd</sup> by a team of experienced professional nature photographers.

All photos will be on display at our Open House Festival October 10<sup>th</sup>, and will later be compiled for a traveling exhibit to be hosted by area businesses and organizations.

For more information regarding TWRC or the contest, please check out our website at [www.twrc-houston.org](http://www.twrc-houston.org). We look forward to receiving your entries soon!

*Lee Ann Lawrence*

*TWRC Open House Committee*

***( Editor's Note: This is a PRINT competition)***

### VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS

Jim Klein, Yasmin Hussen and Amelia Swenson were visitors at the July meeting.

Joining as new members were New Members Jason Binford and Craig Acuff.

Welcome to all of you and we hope you see you again soon.

## 2009 PSA Exhibition

### We are open for your entries

Closing Date is August 10, 2009. Today would be a great time to enter. We are open for business!

To enter, click on <http://www.psaexhibition.com/> and scroll down to the section you are interested in entering. After you have read the "Information and Instructions", scroll down to enter the digital or slide or print section.

If you are entering a slide or print section, after you click on the section you wish to enter, type in your name, address, etc. plus the image titles and submit. Go to your email and you will find your entry forms printed out for you and ready to mail. That's about as quick and easy as it gets. Also, you will see your entry fee.

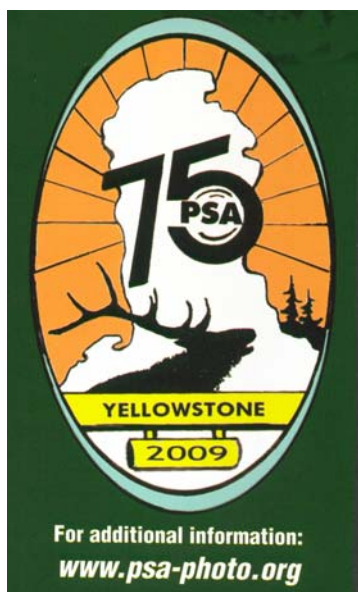
Return to the web where you will find the PayPal payment page. Click on "BuyNow", fill in the amount in the unit price and then enter your credit card information.

Whole process will take less than 5 minutes.

For digital entries the process is identical except you attach the JPGs to the entry form.

Accepted projected images will be shown at Yellowstone and the prints will be on display in the print room. Be sure to see all the beautiful photography during the conference.

Enter early and enter often. The Yellowstone Conference attendance is going to be very large . . . let visitors from around the world see your images!



## Yellowstone Conference

### There Are Still Good Hotel Rates

2009 PSA Conference will be held at West Yellowstone, Montana - gateway to Yellowstone National Park. Conference dates will be from September 20 to September 26.

To register for the conference, click on <http://www.psaexhibition.com/2009-yellowstone/2009-psa-conference-registration-1x.php>

Hotel Reservations in West Yellowstone (from Gerry Emmerich, FPSA)

The 2009 Photographic Society of America (PSA) Conference is scheduled for September 20-26, 2009 at the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort in West Yellowstone, Montana. The PSA guest room blocks at the Holiday Inn, Yellowstone Lodge, Clubhouse Inn, and Days Inn are completely booked for the conference week.

Additional room blocks at special PSA Conference rates are now available at two Best Western hotels in West Yellowstone – the Best Western Crosswinds and the Best Western Desert Inn. The Crosswinds is about two blocks north of the Holiday Inn, and the Desert Inn is about four blocks east of the Holiday Inn. The PSA group rate at the Crosswinds is \$99 plus tax, and the PSA group rate at the Desert Inn is \$119 plus tax. Because the Crosswinds is closed until mid-May, reservations for both the Best Western Crosswinds and the Best Western Desert Inn must be made by calling the reservations desk at the Desert Inn at 406-646-7376 and asking for the PSA group rate. Be sure to specify which hotel you would like to make a reservation. Reservations at the PSA group rate are available by telephone only. (The PSA group rate is not available online.)

There are also rooms available at a special PSA Conference rate at the West Yellowstone Comfort Inn, located about four blocks west of the Holiday Inn. The PSA group rate at the Comfort Inn is \$109 plus tax. Reservations at the Comfort Inn can be made by calling the Comfort Inn directly at 406-646-4212 and asking for the PSA group rate. Reservations at the PSA group rate are not available online.

Reservations for guest rooms at other hotels in West Yellowstone are available by calling West Yellowstone Central Reservations at 888-646-7077 or online at [www.westyellowstonereservations.com](http://www.westyellowstonereservations.com)



**Houston Photochrome Club is a member of the Gulf States Camera Club Council and the Photographic Society of America**

## IMAGES WANTED FOR MEMBERS' SHOWCASE

Pick a shot you would like to share with the club and email it to me. **It should not have been entered into competition**, in fact, this is the venue for those good images that don't fit a category. Submit no more than **one image per month per member**, please. Each month up to six images, dependent upon available space, from the submitted images will be selected and published in the newsletter. If your favorite doesn't get published right away and you really would like to see in print (or online) feel free to request that it be considered again the next month. Deadline is the 20th of each month.

*Carmen Sewell, Editor*