



REFLEX NEWS

Houston Photochrome Club
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www.houstonphotochromeclub.org

PROGRAM for NOVEMBER Presented by Joe Smith



Come and see nature photos taken in Texas this year that won over \$90,000. Joe Smith, one of the winners, will present a slide show of the winning images from the 2009 Coastal Bend Wildlife Photo Contest.

Over 90 photographers and 60 landowners participated in the contest which covered a 16 county area, the largest ever. All images were taken between February 1--June 15, 2009 and all images in this years contest were by digital capture. .

The 18 month drought which preceded the contest impacted shooting conditions in many ways making this a very challenging competition. Joe will include some pictures of setups so you can see how he tried to get the birds and critters to cooperate with his camera.

We will meet on Thursday November 12 at 7:00 PM at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive, which is one block inside Beltway 8 between Westpark, and Richmond.

FIELD TRIP

November 14 2009 Brazos Bend State Park

The last two forays to this grand park suffered the whims of weather; cold and windy last year and so dry this summer that the lakes were reclassified as ponds, and the 'gators were on strike. Recent rains have brought the lakes back up to normal and the creatures are happy once again. So we will give it another try for November, that being the last good opportunity until late spring of next year. This is a good season to do BB, if only the weather will cooperate.

So, in case the weather does not cooperate I will have a back up plan (I am working on several – more info needed). I will announce at the Thursday meeting night (and by e-mail) if BB looks good or Plan B.

Bring macro (or your shortest) lenses for flowers and small critters in the bush and long lenses for birds and alligators. Heck, bring your whole kit; you never know what you will find.

For directions and maps, see the park's TPWD page

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/brazos_bend/

Park opens at 7:00 Am. But, Sunrise is at 6:46 Am. so try to get to the gate before it opens, (you can usually get in a little early). We will assemble in the parking lot right by the gate to evaluate the day's opportunities. If you have any questions, give me a call.

Eric Westling

PSA and YOU - November 2009
By Don Pederson, Director PSA
Region 9

I know I told you that this column would be about what PSA can do for you as an individual member, however, I would like to deviate just a little this month. There are some club benefits available that indirectly offer benefits to individual members if the club elects to participate. Let me tell you briefly about them so that when they are discussed you will be in a position to ask questions and offer your opinions.

INSURANCE --- Our meeting place does not require us to carry liability insurance, but many clubs do face this requirement. Also there is always the possibility that places we go for field trips or even workshops may have such a requirement. As a result PSA has arranged to make available a one million dollar liability policy for PSA clubs at a \$175.00 premium per year. A club purchasing this insurance will be asked for a list of members and their e-mail addresses. Once a year, the club's members will be sent an e-mail describing a photography equipment policy which a member (who must also be a member of PSA) may decide to purchase. How the cost of this insurance would compare to a rider on your own homeowner insurance is something each individual would have to explore, but I suspect this insurance might be less expensive.

ADOBE LIGHTROOM --- Our club will be asked to select a Club Contest Coordinator, who will sign up for a trial copy of Lightroom 2 good through February 2010. In conjunction with the trial software, Adobe will conduct a photo contest. Lightroom will be used to collect and select our club's entry in the contest. Each PSA club's entry will consist of two images by two different photographers. The images submitted to the contest must be new work and no image can have been entered in a PSA-recognized International Exhibition.

Contest prizes include Adobe Photoshop CS4, Lightroom 2, Lightroom Workshops, and Books. Grab your camera and start looking for that prize winning photo.

ANOTHER NOTE ABOUT LIGHTROOM --- At the time our club renews our PSA membership, we will receive a DVD consisting of ten lessons on Lightroom conducted by Julieanne Kost from Adobe. If you have never heard one of Julieanne's presentations, take it from me, she does a great job. OK, program chairman, take it from here!

PRODUCT DISCOUNTS --- Current benefits for PSA members only include special product discounts. Go to the PSA website, www.psa-photo.org, and navigate to the section for members only. You will find a listing of several vendor discounts currently available only to PSA members.

COMPETITION ASSIGNMENTS 2009

	Nature	Pictorial
November	Landscapes with Wildlife	People at Work
December	Natural Sculptures	Montage/Manipulation

INTER CLUB NEWS

Here are the results of the PSA ICIC Pictorial digital competition conducted in October 2009. Our club participates in Group A. This was the first competition of the year.

Title	Maker	Score
Food for the Gods	Cliff Segerstrom	10
Orangutan	Helen Weng Pan	10
Summer to Fall in Colorado	Joseph V. Smith	8
Sunset Photograph	Jerry Pan	8
Galveston Sunset	Carmen Sewell	8
Sun rising	Jennifer Wen	7

OCTOBER 2009 COMPETITION

Judges: **Mark Farrior, Ninfa Palazzolo, Joe Smith** :

Nature Assignment-Seascapes

Irish Coast	Carmen Sewell	22.0
Nice Water	Ron Towe	20.0
Seascape & Rocks	C.T. Edwards	18.0
Polar Bear	Downs Matthews	18.0
Beach Gang	Eric Westling	18.0
Atlantic Ocean View	Ninfa Palazzolo	17.0
Seascape	U.Peddmatham	17.0
7 entries	avg. 18.6	

Pictorial Assignment Sunrise/Sunset

Guilin	U.Peddmatham	23.0
Galveston Sunset	Carmen Sewell	23.0
Coastal Bend Sunrise	Joe Smith	23.0
Sunset Walk	Scott Meyer	22.0
Hawaiian Sunset	Jane Ashley	21.0
Sunrise on Lake McDonald	Philip Tan	21.0
Sunrise on Mountain	Jennifer Wen	21.0
End of Dawn	Eric Westling	21.0
Bodacious S.TX Sunset	David McBride	20.0
Sunset Photography	Jerry Pan	20.0
Lake Livingston Sunset	Don Pederson	19.0
LA Sunset	C.T. Edwards	18.0
Sila River Fog	Downs Matthews	18.0
Sunset Cruise	Helen Weng Pan	18.0
Quiet Evening	Ron Towe	18.0
Chappaquidick	Marian Harrison	17.0
16 entries	avg. 20.2	

Black and White		
Caddo Lake	Carmen Sewell	20.0
Ser Church	John Breaux	19.0
Home-Office	Scott Meyer	19.0
Sunset at Lake Bastrop	Marian Harrison	18.0
Architecture	Helen Wen Pan	18.0
Santa Fe Statuary	Joe Smith	17.0
Old Galveston Buildings	Jane Ashley	16.0
Peaceful	Ron Towe	15.0
8 entries	avg. 17.7	

Oct. entries – 60

Oct. avg. – 19.6

Nature General

Summer to Fall in Colorado	Joe Smith	24.0
Busy Bee	U. Peddamatham	23.0
American Bumble Bee	Don Pederson	23.0
Cardinal on Perch	Joe Smith	23.0
Wading Ibis	Wendy Geng	21.0
West Texas Sand	Carmen Sewell	21.0
Rapids	Jane Ashley	20.0
Male Cardinal	Wendy Geng	20.0
On Guard	Eric Westling	20.0
Wild Fox	John Breaux	19.0
Yard Spider	Scott Meyer	19.0

11 entries avg. 21.2

Pictorial

Old Mill	Jane Ashley	23.0
Estonian Alley	Helen Weng Pan	22.0
Girl in Red Cross	Marian Harrison	21.0
Natchez	Michel Lamy	21.0
Waterton Lake	Philip Tan	21.0
Greasy Pole	Ninfa Palazzolo	20.0
Cathedral	Helen Weng Pan	20.0
Mirror Image	Philip Tan	20.0
Bryce Canyon Gate	Jennifer Wen	20.0
Paraglider	Jerry Pan	19.0
Pond	Jerry Pan	19.0
Waterslide	Scott Meyer	19.0
Arch Hall	John Breaux	18.0
Rocky Neck Scenery	Ninfa Palazzolo	18.0
Glassware in Orange Light	Don Pederson	18.0
Late	Ron Towe	17.0
Antelope Canyon	Jennifer Wen	17.0
Canal Street, New Orleans	C.T. Edwards	16.0

18 entries avg. 19.4

November Assignments

Nature – Landscapes with Wildlife

Pictorial – People at Work

Judges for November
R. Bookwalter, C. Cox, J. Breaux

COMPETITION ASSIGNMENTS

November 2009

Nature – Landscapes with Wildlife.

This is a view of a landscape that includes wildlife in their natural environment

Pictorial- People at Work

Images should depict people in their work environment in the act of working. . Interesting subject matter with interesting environment and / or lighting will add to the impact of images

Looking ahead to December

Nature Natural Sculptures- This can be any of nature's sculptural forms. Some possibilities include interesting rock formations, a canyon, stalactites in a cave, an iceberg, wind "carved" sand dunes.

Pictorial— Montage/Manipulation

Creative images created in the camera, like multiple exposures or use of special filters; sandwich of two or more transparencies or computer images to make one image; computer manipulation of one or more images; changing focal length of lens during image capture; etc.

Deadline for digital
submission...

All digital entries must be sent

to [Philip Tan](#)

pt-chromer@earthlink.net

by Nov 8. Entries received
after that will not be eligible for
November competition.

FYI... the deadline is always the
Saturday before the regular

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.

President's Letter

As your new club president I want to ensure that the club serves your photographic needs as best as it can. We are fortunate to have many talented members who are willing to share their knowledge in a way that can benefit you. To help make this happen, let us know what we can do to help you become a better photographer or help you enjoy your photographic experiences.

We are trying to have all Programs incorporate an educational component along with its program theme. Workshops by their very nature are educational in nature. They could be long programs not suitable to a 20-30 minute time frame. We will be having at least one Workshop on critiquing images. If you want a particular subject covered just let us know.

We have purchased a new screen which should be arriving soon. Its surface is better suited for our digital projector.

Let's remember to introduce ourselves to each other at meetings and other club events and be sure to welcome new members and get to know them.

I try to learn from others too. I look at good photos taken by others at two internet sites, Photo.net and Naturescapes.net. Both are free. I just go to a particular image category and view the images. Often you will see comments about shooting data and how the image was taken. Here are two sample links:

<http://naturescapes.net/phpBB3/viewforum.php?f=4&sid=0db199efc061737017f344af6ac81f77>

(Once at the Naturescapes.net site, you click on Forums and then scroll down to Image Galleries and select your category.)

<http://photo.net/gallery/photocritique/filter>

(Once at photo.net, go to Gallery, select "Browse Gallery" and then select the Category and Timeframe you want.)

Joe Smith
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Wayne Nicholas Memorial

Please mark your calendar and join our family on November 7th, from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the log cabin at Houston Audubon's Edith L. Moore Nature Sanctuary as we celebrate Wayne Nicholas' life. The Nature Sanctuary is located at 440 Wilchester Blvd., Houston, Texas 77079. (Parking is at the Memorial Drive United Methodist Church, 12955 Memorial Drive; enter the nature sanctuary through the gate on the west side of the parking lot.) Please note that this is a very informal gathering. In order to help us gauge the amount of refreshments to have on hand, please send an e-mail reply to let us know if you will be coming and how many will be in your party.

Thank you,
The Nicholas Family

P.S.: In lieu of flowers, we ask that you donate to Houston Audubon's Land Rescue Fund by making your check out to Greater Houston Community Foundation and writing "HAS Land Rescue Fund - In memory of Wayne Nicholas" on the memo line. We will have a box or basket for donations at the cabin or you can mail it to the Audubon address above

Workshops

No workshops for November and December due to the holidays.

Member's Showcase will resume in the December issue of Reflex News.

Editor

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.

Be sure the maker is identified in the image title.

Carmen Sewell Editor



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