



# REFLEX NEWS

Houston Photochrome Club  
Volume XXXIX, Number 9 September, 2004  
[www.houstonphotochrome.homestead.com](http://www.houstonphotochrome.homestead.com)

## SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

### Photographing Birds with Digital Capture

Our program this month will be presented by guest speaker and accomplished bird photographer, Alan Murphy.

Alan has been captivated by birds since his childhood in England. As a young adult, he traveled to roughly twenty countries and visited the natural areas that these destinations had to offer.

Upon immigrating to the United States, Alan was overwhelmed and somewhat intimidated by the diversity of bird species and their many subtle variations. With the study of field guides, he not only learned about various bird species, but he soon wanted to create images like those in the field guides. And the more time he spent in the field, the more enamored he became with birds.

For over twelve years now, Alan has been photographing birds. Currently, he uses a solid Nikon digital SLR system, where much of his work relies upon his 600mm f/4 lens. He is a valued part of the website, [www.NatureScapes.Net](http://www.NatureScapes.Net) as the moderator for the *Birds Image Critique Gallery*.

Alan's numerous photo credits include *Birders World*, *Wild Bird*, *Bird Watcher's Digest*, *North American Birds*, *Texas Birds*, *Texas Parks & Wildlife*, *Texas Highways*, *British Birds*, and more. His photos are also published in various field guides, books, CD-ROM's, calendars, and postcards.

If you like stunningly beautiful bird photography, you will not want to miss this month's meeting. We will meet September 9 at 7:00 pm at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Drive, which is one block inside Beltway 8 between Westpark and Richmond.

**Mark Farrior**

## AWARDS BANQUET

### Fellowship, Dinner, Awards and Door Prizes Galore

**September 18**

**6:30 pm**

**Brookhollow Sheraton**

**Don't Miss This One!**

**See Details on Page 2**

## SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP

**Saturday, September 11th.**

### Brazos Bend State Park

The field trip this month is to Brazos Bend State Park. Remember that the nature assignment for December is macro so bring your macro lens and a flash for the spider shots. There should be lots of them on the trail near the corner of Elm Lake,

The fee at the gate is \$3.00 per person. We will meet at the gate at 7:00 - 7:15am. If you arrive late then drive to Elm Lake, past the picnic area, and park at the far end of the road. Follow the trail around Elm Lake until you find us.

**Ernie Wales**

## Field Trip Previews

We have several field trips coming up that need a bit of preplanning or at least advanced notification.

In **October** we have a field trip scheduled for the San Antonio Missions and River Walk on **Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>**. This is the one that I would like you to think about between now and our September meeting. To be successful we need to go over on Friday and spend the night so that we can get an early start on Saturday morning. This means that you will need to make reservations in a motel or take potluck when you get there.

Are you interested in making this field trip? 2. Can you indicate at the September meeting that you plan to go?

If there are at least five or six members who will commit to go, then we will do it. Otherwise we will have to plan something closer to home.

The **November** field trip is to the Liendo Plantation in Hempstead, TX, on **Saturday November 20<sup>th</sup>**. This is the weekend that a Civil War reenactment is taking place. From research on the Internet, it appears that several Civil War military groups are going to be there, the 7<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry, 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Cavalry, and the 11<sup>th</sup> Texas Infantry will all be there. Activities will begin in the morning but the actual battle is scheduled for the afternoon. This should be an interesting field trip.

If you wish to tour the Plantation Home there is an additional **\$5.00** charge. The Houston Camera Club did this one last year and I understand it was very good.

*( continued in next column)*

*(Field Trips Continued)*

In **December** we will be going to Old Town Spring, Texas on **Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup>**. This is a local attraction that should have good photo ops, especially during the Christmas shopping season.

Please consider the trip to San Antonio between now and the August meeting.

Ernie Wales, Field Trip Chairman  
Houston Photochrome Club  
[ewales@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ewales@sbcglobal.net)

### Awards Banquet Sept 18

It's the date of the upcoming Awards Banquet and Installation of new club officers. If you are one of the newer members of the club, you will find it an excellent opportunity to get to know and visit with other members. For you members who may not be participating on a regular basis, it's an opportunity to renew acquaintances. Be the first to find out who won Slide of the Year. Maybe it's you! In any event, you won't want to miss out on a really fun evening.

Some of our good industry friends have donated some great door prizes. We have prizes from Light Printers, Hunt Photo. Thomas Photo and Southwest Airlines and lots more., so come and join the fun.

Dinner will be delicious whether you choose beef or chicken, key lime or pecan pie. There will be a cash bar starting at 6:30, dinner will be served at 7:30 followed by the awards.

Reservation and payment form is enclosed. Please complete it by the August meeting if at all possible. ***Print your copy from***

## September Workshop Digital Competitions Update

We are using the workshop in September as a dry run of our digital competitions which will officially begin at the October competition meeting. Please read the Digital Submission Requirements and follow them when you prepare your digital images for submission.

For the September Workshop you must submit your images no later than September 17th to Cliff Segerstrom [segerstrom@worldnet.att.net](mailto:segerstrom@worldnet.att.net). If we are overwhelmed with images for the September workshop, Cliff can pick and choose the images. Since Wayne is in Florida and subject to work priorities, Cliff and Carmen are serving as backups. Your images are going to be placed into a digital slideshow program for the September workshop. Remember that only jpeg files will be accepted.

We still need volunteers with laptop PCs for our digital competitions. We prefer laptops with Windows XP or Windows 2000 operating systems. If you have a laptop we can use during the competition, please email me at [jvsmith2@swbell.net](mailto:jvsmith2@swbell.net) or call me at 281-496-9346. We want to have three possible laptop PCs to choose from to make sure we have one available for the meeting. I will be calling Rajan Spinivasan and Carmen Sewell who have already volunteered their PCs for this project. When Wayne returns, his laptop will also be available.

If you have any questions or issues about digital submissions prior to the September workshop, please call Cliff Segerstrom at 713-978-7212.

## Digital Photography

Greg Downing has a great article on interpreting your digital camera's histogram in the August 2004 issue of NatureScapes. Here is a direct link to it:

<http://www.naturescapes.net/092004/gd0904.htm>

I suggest you go to it and download it to your Favorites file or print it out or both.

Go to <http://www.naturescapes.net/> from time to time and look at the Forums and images posted. If you want to post your own images, you have to pay a nominal fee for this privilege.

NatureScapes is one of our donors for the September Awards Banquet.

## 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).

Dues for senior families are \$25.00 per year.

Remember to be eligible for the October competition; dues must be paid by **October 1.**

# Houston Photochrome Club Annual Dues Payment for 2004 – 2005

Dues are payable in August and are to be collected by the Treasurer. Annual dues are \$25.00 per individual, \$29.00 per family, and a special rate of \$21.00 for senior citizens (65 and over) and students (high school level and below). Dues for senior families are \$25.00 per year. 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.

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## Awards Banquet --- You don't want to miss this top event of the year!

Date: Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>

Time: 6:30 – 7:30 Cash Bar Cocktails

7:30 – 8:30 Dinner

8:30 – 10:00 Program

Place: Sheraton Houston Brookhollow Hotel --- 3000 North Loop West

Name (s): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30.00 per person = Total Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Entree (choose one for each person): Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetable Plate \_\_\_\_\_  
(specify who gets what)

Dessert (choose one for each person): Pecan Pie \_\_\_\_\_ Key Lime Pie \_\_\_\_\_  
(specify who gets what)

Please complete this form and return by Sept 14, along with check payable to:

Houston Photochrome Club.

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

If you have special dietary needs (e.g. heart disease or diabetic or vegetarian), please let Dianne Segerstrom know what you are unable to eat, and she will do her best to arrange a better alternative. Her email is [segerstrom@att.net](mailto:segerstrom@att.net), or phone 713-974-3275. Deadline Sept 14.

# AUGUST COMPETITION

**Judges: Don Dean, Mark Farris, Mark Lester**

## Nature Assign.- Sunrise or Sunset

<b>Group A</b>		
October Sunset	Don Pederson	23.0
Red Dawn	Donna Weber	23.0
Bosque Sunset	Don Kerr	22.0
Truk Lagoon	Cliff Segerstrom	22.0
Victoria Sunset #2	Dianne Segerstrom	22.0
Sunrise-Freeport, TX	Carmen Sewell	22.0
Cibolo Creek Sunrise	Joe Smith	22.0
Midnight Sun	Downs Matthews	21.0
Cullinan-Oyster Creek Sunset	Evelyn Sandler	21.0
Sunset In the Smokies	Jane Ashley	20.0
Dawn's Early Light	Dot Mullinax	20.0
Mirrored Sunset	Mark Farris	19.5
Sunrise at Bosque	Charleen Baugh	19.0
Salt Lake Sunset	Joe Sandler	19.0
California Coast Sunset	Lee Taylor	19.0
Between The Sea, Cloud & Sky	C.T. Edwards	18.0
Flight at Sunrise	Ernie Wales	18.0
Gloucester, MA, Back Shore	Ninfa Palazzolo	16.0
18 entries	20.4 avg.	

### Group B

Anahuac Sunset #2	Andy Holmes	23.0
Sunset	Jerry Pan	23.0
Sunrise on Bear Creek	Saul Ramirez	22.0
Chili Pepper Sun	Vic Davison	21.0
4 entries	22.3 avg.	

### Group A

#### Pictorial Assign-Fence/Gate

Fence In The Smoky Mtns.	Charleen Baugh	21.0
Wyoming Fence	Jane Ashley	19.0
Rail Fence	Don Pederson	19.0
Sanctuario de Chamyo Entrance	Joe Smith	19.0
Heaven's Gate	Donna Weber	19.0
Protect The Wagon	C.T. Edwards	18.0
Split Rail Fence	Downs Matthews	18.0
Fence and Wildflowers	Cindy Cox	16.0
Mountain Gate	Dot Mullinax	15.0
9 entries	18.2 avg.	

### Group B

Classic Barb	Vic Davison	20.0
Chappel Hill Fence in Spring	Andy Holmes	17.0
Queen's Gate	Don Dean	16.5
3 entries	17.8 Avg.	

## Sept. Assignments

### Nature-Beach Scenes

### Pictorial- Dramatic Light

If you have any corrections  
Please contact Jane Ashley

## Nature General

### Group A

Thrasher on Perch	Joe Smith	23.0
Bee Eyeing Flower	Mark Farris	22.5
Doing Lunch	Downs Matthews	22.0
Lake Huron Sunset	Cliff Segerstrom	21.0
Michigan Waterfall	Dianne Segerstrom	21.0
Sandhills at Sunrise	Charleen Baugh	20.0
Yellow Headed Blackbirds	Don Kerr	20.0
Jelly Fish	Dot Mullinax	20.0
Let's Get Out of Here	Evelyn Sandler	20.0
Oregon Dunes 2	Cliff Segerstrom	20.0
Earthly Delight	Donna Weber	19.0
Columine Trio	Cindy Cox	18.0
Lotus Garden	Ninfa Palazzolo	18.0
Mountain Flowers	Lee Taylor	17.0
14 entries	20.1 avg.	

### Group B

Final Approach	Don Dean	24.0
Blue Heron	Jerry Pan	24.0
Blue Heron	Jerry Pan	21.0
3 entries	23.0 avg.	

## Pictorial General

### Group A

Balloon Glow	Joe Sandler	21.0
Tom Bass Park Lake	C.T. Edwards	20.0
Swirls and Screams	Mark Farris	19.5
Caught Between Firecracker & Fireworks	Ninfa Palazzolo	19.0
Desert Sunset	Carmen Sewell	19.0
Hotel Scene	Lee Taylor	19.0
Red Lily	Ernie Wales	19.0
Pink Water Lily	Jane Ashley	18.0
Tulorosa, NM Church	Don Kerr	18.0
Rose	Don Pederson	18.0
Pink Lily 2004	Evelyn Sandler	18.0
Pilot Boat at Sunrise	Joe Sandler	18.0
Eagle Harbor Light	Dianne Segerstrom	18.0
Low Tide-Whitby	Carmen Sewell	18.0
Light House	Ernie Wales	18.0
Red Barn and Wildflowers	Cindy Cox	16.0
16 entries	18.5 Avg.	

### Group B

Fog	Don Dean	22.5
Mt. Rainier at Sunrise Pass	Andy Holmes	20.0
2 entries	21.3 Avg.	

Club Entries for Aug. 2004 69  
Club Avg. for Aug. 2004 19.8

## **SEPTEMBER COMPETITION**

### **Categories**

#### **NATURE- Beach Scene**

These images are taken around water sources, lakes, rivers or oceans. The beach itself or an element of the beach has to be a focal point in the image

#### **PICTORIAL- Dramatic Light**

Light causes drama. Light right after a storm at sunrise or sunset, or an hour before or after sunrise and sunset, can produce dramatic outdoor images. Or consider altering the light through the use of filter or by using artificial light. Dramatic scenes can result when the light is caused by fire or flame

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

### **October Competition**

**NATURE— Elements of Nature,**( fire, water, rain, snow, etc.) Use nature's elements to create an image with impact. Use wind, fog, rain, snow, fire, smoke, lightning, water, etc as the focal point of a nature image. Make sure the supporting cast (landscape, light, etc) support the image and does not dominate it.

#### **PICTORIAL —Selective Focus**

Use focal length and depth of field (f stop selection) to isolate a subject of highlight a part of a subject or minimize backgrounds and foregrounds. Colors may also be impacted.

## **COMPETITION JUDGES**

Here are proposed judges for the next several months. If there are any questions or if you are unable to judge at that time to call Charleen at (713) 983-0154.

**September:** Ray Bookwalter, Evelyn Sandler and Donna Weber

**October:** Joe Smith, Ernie Wales and Ninfa Palazzolo

## **VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS**

We were happy to welcome new members Margaret Thompson and Bill & Rachel Burychka to the August meeting.

Visiting were Arthur Bunda , Emmett Bean,Louise Vanasseto. We hope to see them again soon.

## **ARTICLES AND SUGGESTIONS**

If you would like to contribute and article or suggest topics you would like to have addressed please contact me at [uwpix@aol.com](mailto:uwpix@aol.com). Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.



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