



© Dick Dodds

JAN
2024

The Shutterbug
a newsletter of Trinity Arts Photo Club

The Galapagos



2024 Club Officers

President Teresa Hughes

Vice President Leanna Mendoza

Secretary Larry Marx

Treasurer/Membership Jan Stout

Officers at Large

2023 TAPC Committee Chairs

Competition Mark Lenz

Judges Greg Richards

Newsletter Laura Richards, Kammi Barnard

Outings

Programs

Web/Media Bruce Hutter

Have something to contribute?
Email Laura Richards: rci85@yahoo.com



www.trinityartsphotoclub.org



© Dick Dodds

January Meeting

Date: Monday, January 22, 7:00 pm (CST)

Location: Generations Park, 2801 Forest Ridge Dr., Bedford

Program Speaker: Dick Dodds

Dick Dodds was born in Yorkshire, UK and earned a BS in Electrical Engineering at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He met his wife-to-be, Jean, in 1961, at school. He earned an MS degree in Electrical Engineering from UCLA in 1964. Dick married Jean in 1967 and emigrated to Hurst, Texas in 1968 where he was offered a position with Bell Helicopter in the IT dept., developing real time simulators of Bell's newest helicopter, the Osprey tilt rotor. He worked for Bell for 36 years, retiring in 2004. Dick and Jean have three adult children and 4 grandchildren, three of which live in the Metroplex.

Since retirement, they have traveled the world to all 7 continents. They especially like to get out of Texas during the brutal summer months when they explore the Arctic, Antarctica, far

northern Canada, Greenland, Iceland, and Alaska. Dick's favorite Expedition Company is Lindblad which has an association with National Geographic, and frequently they have top quality photographers on-board giving seminars, critiques, and advice on best photographic practices. His favorite wildlife photographic tour company is Natural Habitat which limit their tour size to 12 participants. He has used them to explore the habitats of polar bears, penguins, butterflies, jaguars, wolves, pandas, kiwis and Tasmanian devils!

He got his first 35mm camera (a Voigtlander Vito B which he still has) in 1957. He eventually accumulated 12,500 35mm slides and prints taken with his Voigtlander and his early Canon A1 film camera which he scanned electronically and imported into Lightroom. He transitioned to digital cameras in 2000 and he presently has ¼ million images in his Lightroom catalog (not all of them good and not all of them keyworded!!) on a 5TB external drive. He has been a Canonista for most of his life, and is now shooting a Canon 6D. He loves photographing wildlife, landscapes, and of course, grandkids' sports!



© Dick Dodds

Topic: The Galapagos

In 2001, **Dick Dodds** and Jean made their first visit to the Galapagos and thought at the time that if they ever had any grandkids, that would be a wonderful place to take them. They achieved that goal in 2023! Dick is sharing the beauty and variety of wildlife through photos of this unique place that he was able to share with his grandchildren.



© Dick Dodds



© Dick Dodds



© Dick Dodds



© Dick Dodds



Lightning Stack © Tornado Trackers

FEB
2024

The Art of Storm Chasing



© Gabe Cox

February Meeting in Person and on Zoom

Date: Monday, February 26, 7:00 pm (CST)

Location: Generations Park, 2801 Forest Ridge Dr., Bedford

Program Speaker: Gabe Cox

Gabe Cox is a self-professing weather nut. Using his background in photography and filmmaking, he cofounded Tornado Trackers, a team dedicated to capturing nature's wildest moments and the perfect opportunity for Gabe to fulfill his childhood dreams of storm chasing. Tornado Trackers has contributed to Emmy-nominated live tornado coverage, were featured in the Netflix original series Earthstorm, and have had their footage used in original TV programming, major motion pictures and international museum installations. Gabe has also provided storm chasing consultation for major studio film crews and has worked closely with state agencies to provide storm training videos for emergency management. He currently lives in Georgetown, TX with his amazing wife and two daughters.

Lockett Tornado © Tornado Trackers



© Tornado Trackers



Sunset Brightened © Tornado Trackers



Michael 2 © Tornado Trackers

You can find his latest work, along with podcast episodes detailing the story behind the shots, at www.tornadotrackers.org.

Meet our judges

January

Ting Huang is an Associate Professor of Photography and Chair of Communication Arts at Tarrant County College, Northeast Campus. Ting specializes in street and documentary photography. Her photography has taken her around the world; she is particularly interested in the American west and scenes from Taiwan. Ting's work has been exhibited and published internationally.

Ting has been an educator of photography in the DFW area since 2014. She teaches full time on TCC NE campus and conducts workshops around the metroplex. Her areas of teaching expertise include analog photography, digital photography and bookmaking.

She has a Bachelor of Music in Composition from the University of Texas in Arlington and an MFA in Photography from the San Francisco Art Institute. While at SFAI, she studied under Henry Wessel Jr., Darcy Padilla, Linda Connor and Reagan Louie.

February

Frank Comisar is the founder of Scenic Aperture and an internationally collected landscape, wildlife, and nature photographer. He has been photographing our natural world for over 30 years. Based in Durango, Colorado, Frank travels throughout North America leading photography workshops and making beautiful photographs for his Durango gallery.



www.scenicaperture.com

Trinity Arts Photo Club Competitions

January – Open

“Open” means no assigned topic. We have free rein to challenge ourselves with the camera and/or with post-processing

February – Black and White

Entry Deadline - February 1, 2024

Channel your inner Ansel Adams. An image taken on a digital camera in color for which all color has been removed (through post processing) or by setting your digital camera on monochrome or through using B&W film. Your photo will consist of shades of gray that generally go from dark (black) to light (white).

March – All About the Details

This is a competition for photos with LOTS of detail in the subject.

April –Silhouette

Silhouette photography shows the dark outlines of subjects in front of contrasting, bright scenes such as sunsets or studio backdrops. More specifically, it is where your subject is seen as a black shape without detail against a brighter background. Silhouette images are unlike other forms of photography because they showcase dramatic contrast.

May – Open

“Open” means no assigned topic. We have free rein to challenge ourselves with the camera and/or with post-processing.

June – Texas Themed

We are looking for photos that say without a doubt that this is Texas or Texan...no imposters need apply.

July – Sunset

Photos taken in the evening golden hour closely before or after the actual sunset time. This will make those of you like to sleep in happy that we did not pick sunrise instead.

August – Panoramic

Either multiple images of a subject stitched together in photo processing software or a single image that mimics a multi-image panorama, generally a wide or tall scene or structure.

September – Open

“Open” means no assigned topic. We have free rein to challenge ourselves with the camera and/or with post-processing.

October – Procrastinator’s Delight

Topic will be chosen from a hat at the August meeting. Photos must be taken between drawing and the October 1 competition deadline. No shooting ahead. No looking through archived photos. You have a limited window of time to take this competition topic.

November – Capturing Speed

Photos that capture something that is speedy; a hare, a car, a plane, a motorboat, a cyclist, a runner... No tortoises please.

December – Holiday Party

Beginner

November Contest Winners – Scenes from Fall



1st Place and People's Choice *Vermont Reflections* Linda Zillinger



© Kammi Barnard

Honorable Mention
Captivating Bridge
Kammi Barnard



© Linda Zillinger



© Monte Zillinger

2nd Place *Rabbit's Eye Level View* Monte Zillinger



© Monte Zillinger

3rd Place *Hanging On for Sunlight* Monte Zillinger

Advanced

November Contest Winners – Scenes from Fall



© Larry Marx

1st Place *Afternoon Solitude* Larry Marx

"Returning from a hike to a waterfall, I spotted this rough peak surrounded by foliage, and I jumped out of the truck to snap a pic. Since it was vertical, I got more road than I wanted, so I cut off the bottom of the photo, reduced the contrast to bring out the shadows, and cleaned up a bare branch coming in from the left. I may print this one for our wall at home!"

(1/320, f/9.0, ISO:200, exp. -0.7, focal length - 70 mm, Canon EOS 5D Mark III)

- Larry Marx



© David Roberts

2nd Place *Hwy 42 - Door County, WI* David Roberts

© Mark Lenz



Honorable Mention
One Tree, One Man
Mark Lenz



© Mahannah Pike

3rd Place & People's Choice *Before the Rain* Mahannah Pike



Club News

Positions Still Open for 2024!

There are positions available for our photography club for 2024. Please consider filling a position to keep this GREAT club running smoothly! The openings and descriptions are as follows:

Programs - Urgent Need

The club shall normally have, at least, a 20-minute program during its regular monthly meetings. Programs should concern themselves with technical and instructional presentations, guest speakers, competitions, members travelogues or other activities.

Field Trips

The Field Trip chair shall provide members with social and photographic opportunities outside of regularly scheduled meetings to practice particular skills and learn from others in a group setting. The club shall try to schedule at least 2 field trips per year. He/she is responsible for determining field trip dates and locations, and communicating these to the club members.

No Newsletter in February

There will be no newsletter for the month of February. A large newsletter is being published for January with presentation information for both January and February. The winners for the competitions in January and February will be in the March issue. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Richards at: rci85@yahoo.com.

February Meeting

Please note this presentation will be on zoom. The presenter does not live in the metroplex. We will still meet in person. Below is the link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81267488412?pwd=cnp2UjJwUUVEa0gwbTZKNTUxcFhlQT09>

Meeting ID: 812 6748 8412
Passcode: 026664

Membership Renewal

It's that time again. Just a quick reminder that we need to renew our membership in TAPC. The form is attached in the email with the newsletter. Membership is for a calendar year but you can join at any time (our modest dues are even prorated). Annual dues are: Family-\$45, Individual-\$35, and Student-\$25. There are three methods of payment and are as follows: cash (make sure your name is included), check (payable to TRINITY ARTS PHOTO CLUB) and Zelle. Jan Stout is our membership officer. If you have any questions, please contact her at:

tapc.memberdues@gmail.com

A Trip to Africa

Jennifer Bell and Safari Legacy put together a trip to Africa for an opportunity for Trinity Arts Photo Club. She has been traveling with Safari

Legacy since 2012. They have been in the safari business for over 50 years and started out as a photo safari company. They know how to plan and execute a great safari. This trip is for photographers and we will be limited to 8 or 12 with maximum of 4 in each vehicle. She urges anyone who has an interest to sign up as soon as possible. Giraffe Manor books well over a year in advance. More information has been included in the pdf file attached to the email.

Annual Heard Natural Science Museum's Photo Competition

The Heard Nature Photographers would like to invite the members of our club to participate in the annual nature photography contest that they administer each year for the Heard Natural Science Museum and Wildlife Sanctuary. The contest is judged by three professional and expert photographers, none of whom are connected with their club or the museum. The entry dates are March 23rd through April 13th, with the awards ceremony on May 19th. There are four divisions, each with a selection of categories. The best in show from each division takes home \$100. It is easy to enter using a simple web form, which can be accessed through the club website:

www.heardnaturephotographers.com/about-the-contest-2024

Photographers of the Year!



*Beginner -
Jan Stout*



*Beginner -
Mike Stokic*



*Advanced -
Chandra Brooks*

© Jan Stout



© Mike Stokic



© Chandra Brooks



Beginner Photographer of the Year

Jan Stout

Orchid Plant Awaiting Blooms High Key © Jan Stout



How did you initially become interested in photography?

My interest in photography primarily began with the arrival of children. As with most parents photography centered around children's activities, family gatherings and outings. It was not until a few years ago that I ventured out to move the dial from "P" or "A" to manual and have really enjoyed the whole other world out there.

What are your favorite subject(s)/genre(s) to shoot?

I find myself wanting to tell stories more and more through the images captured and am still working on this art. Animals, old buildings and spontaneous 'people' shots or street photography seem to hold a

special interest for me. I have been drawn to black and white because of the emotion, mood, and depth that can be conveyed.

What is the best advice in photography that you have received?

One thought I always remember when a camera is in hand, is to photograph what is of interest to you and also don't be afraid to branch out and try something new.

What skill would you like to improve?

I still feel awkward capturing people I do not know but I am working to overcome this.

What do you enjoy about being a member of Trinity Arts Photography Club?

The Trinity Arts Photo Club is a wonderful organization to belong to; not only are the people top notch in their skills, they also provide a very supportive environment for those interested in learning.

What challenges have you had to deal with or overcome in your photography pursuits?

Exploring the possibilities for creativity and simply trying to obtain an "in focus" image have been challenging at times, to say the least.

If you could travel anywhere in the world to take photos, where would it be? Why?

My dream photo trip would be Churchill, Manitoba to photograph the polar bears in their natural habitat. Until then, I will be content capturing them at the Winnipeg Zoo, sleeping peacefully on the grass.



Hello © Jan Stout

What thoughts would you like to share?

Photography is a journey that not only provides oneself with endless opportunities for learning, but also discovering and awakening the creativity hidden inside.



© Jan Stout

Beginner Photographer of the Year

Mike Stokic

How did you initially become interested in photography?

I had a Scoutmaster who initially showed me how to shoot his Nikon film camera.

How long have you been involved in photography?

I have played with photography through the years. Tried my hand with a film Minolta years ago. I got a bit more serious after getting a digital camera for my birthday several years ago.

What are your favorite genres/ subjects to photograph?

The area I am most comfortable with is sports. I still shoot athletic events, for the coaches at LD Bell High School where I spent 33 years as an athletic trainer. I have gotten better with wildlife and landscape. I enjoy those very much.

What skill would you like to improve?

Every aspect of photography. Especially with post

processing. I still have so much to learn.

What challenges have you had to deal with or overcome in your photography pursuits?

Finding photography and post processing classes.

If you could travel anywhere in the world to take photos, where would it be? Why?

I would love to go on a photography safari, travel to Yellowstone or even Alaska.



© Mike Stokic



© Mike Stokic



© Mike Stokic



© Mike Stokic

Advanced Photographer of the Year

Chandra Brooks

How did you initially become interested in photography?

I've been interested in photography for as long as I can remember. I even got a Barbie 110 camera (pink of course) as a present many, many, many Christmases ago. I'm not sure if I still have it, but I remember taking a lot of very poorly focused images with it.

How long have you been involved in photography?

I have been involved in photography for about 25 years. I started off helping a friend who shot weddings back in the film days. From there, I took a class or two to improve my skills, and even had a part time job as a magazine photographer. However, it's really been since we moved to Texas in 2010 that I was able to focus on my photography and growing my skills.

What are your favorite genres/subjects to photograph?

My favorite subjects to photograph are wildlife/animals – if they are unhappy with my results, they never complain...they just leave the scene. I also enjoy landscape, aviation, floral, action (rodeo/racing/sports) and food photography.

What equipment do you consider to be essential? What are your favorite non-essential items?

I like to shoot wildlife which often involves low light and busy backgrounds. So, an essential piece of equipment for me is a long,



True Grit © Chandra Brooks



© Chandra Brooks



Sushi.... Best Served Beary Fresh © Chandra Brooks

continued from previous page

fast prime lens. I know zoom lenses are far more versatile and cost effective but once you try a fast prime and see that tack sharp image with creamy bokeh...there is no going back. My favorite non-essential item is my Wacom tablet, and thanks to competition, the cost of tablets has dropped lately. Of course, you can use a mouse to edit your images, but with a bit of practice the tablet/pen combo gives you much more precise, efficient control over your hand movements.

What is the best advice in photography that you have received?

Compete! Yes, it's tough to put your work out to be judged and maybe winning ribbons isn't what motivates you- but honestly, competition is an education and a great way to push your skills. Listen objectively to what the judges have to say and consider ordering critiques of your images if the option is available. Of course, we've all had good laughs over some judges' comments, but a fresh set of eyes with no emotional ties to the image often catch things we makers miss. If you prefer to ease into competition, many organizations will live stream their competition judging panels which is also a good way to learn and lets you see a lot of different image styles.

What skill would you like to improve?

That list is long, but I have a 1A and 1B. 1A is improving my skills with light. Light, whether finding the best light for an image or knowing how to effectively add light where you are able, really is the difference in a stunning or meh for an image. 1B on my list is improving my post processing skills. Photoshop/Lightroom and all the other processing tools are evolving so quickly that it really is almost a full-time job to understand what they can do to help you bring out the best in your images.

Q: What do you enjoy about being a member of Trinity Arts Photography Club?

I think the part of TAPC I enjoy most is being

surrounded by outstanding photographers who really make me want to learn more and improve my skills. As a group, we are fortunate to have such dedicated members who care about the club and are willing to put in the effort to manage members and competitions, organize field trips and exhibitions, create newsletters and websites, and find quality speakers – it really is just an amazing learning experience and a wonderful way to meet good friends with similar interests.

What challenges have you had to deal with or overcome in your photography pursuits?

I think the biggest challenge I had to overcome in pursuing my photography is the ability to visualize what I want out of a scene and the patience to wait for it to develop instead of just snapping what's in front of me. Of course, it does mean I end up standing around a lot especially at the Zoo, but sometimes I get something worth the wait.

If you could travel anywhere in the world to take photos, where would it be? Why?

Africa! Although I have been and plan to go back – it is my photographer's paradise. There are so many different animals to photograph, their behavior is always changing, and the scenery is just spectacular. I will never get tired of photographing in Africa.

What thoughts would you like to share?

Take lots of images, push yourself to try something new occasionally, take advantage of all the education opportunities around you (fellow club members, YouTube, workshops, Texas School), learn to change the settings on your camera without looking at the dials, print your work and always look for the good light.



Bird in Snow © Chandra Brooks



© Chandra Brooks