

Competition Meeting— July 7

7:00 p.m. at Bayland Community Center

We will meet at Bayland. Our meeting will go from 7:00 to 9:00.

This is an in-person meeting. We look forward to seeing you.

Refreshments: Marilyn Holloway

GSCCC Judging Online—July 21

Our club belongs to the Gulf States Camera Club Council, GSCCC. Each year, we judge the entries from the other clubs in the organization. The GSCCC judging is on July 21, by video conference.

Find a comfortable chair and settle in for an evening looking at well-done images. These images are what each submitting club thinks are the best they have to submit.

A link to join will be sent several days before the judging. We will begin the judging at 6:00 p.m.

Dues For 2026—2027 Year

Dues for the upcoming year are due in July. Dues for the year are \$30.00. For a second member in your household, it is an additional \$15.00. Checks should be made payable to Houston Camera Club. The club also accepts cash and Zelle.

If you have not paid your dues by the end of July, you are delinquent and may not enter the August competition.



COMPETITION MEETING

Tuesday, July 7, 2026

- **Quarterly Field Trip Competiton**—Enter **one** projected image and/or **one** print from each of the following field trips:
Art Car Parade
Nelson’s Water Gardens
- **Projected Image Competition**— Enter **two** images total in categories: Pictorial, Nature, Travel, Photojournalism. Only **one** image may be entered in a category.
- **Print Competition**—Enter **two** images total in categories: Pictorial, Nature, Travel, Photojournalism. Only **one** image may be entered in a category.
- **Creative and Monochrome**—Enter **one** projected image and/or **one** print in each category.
- **Unlimited Prints** —Enter **one** print.

Assignment: Enter **one** projected image and/or one print. *Kitchen Macro*

Judges: Ross McEathron, Henry Peterman, **One Needed**

Competition Table: Marilyn Holloway

AUGUST COMPETITION

Projected Images: Send digital images to Marilyn Holloway at hccprojection@gmail.com by Tuesday, **July 28, 2026**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA

Calendar—Upcoming Activities

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|---------|---|
| July 7 | Competition Meeting 7:00 p.m. |
| July 21 | GSCCC Judging—Online 6:00 p.m. |
| July 28 | Submission Deadline—August Projected Images |

Upcoming Assignments

The following assignments may be taken after May 1:

August	In The Shadows
September	Found Faces
October	Leading Lines

June Elections Results

Elections for club officers for the club year 2026—2027 were held at the June Competition Meeting. The following officers were elected:

President — **Leslie Niemand**
1st Vice President—Programs, **Ramiro Sanchez**
2nd Vice President—Workshops, **Jim Nielsen**
Secretary, **Rachel Burychka**
Treasurer, **Gwen Kunz**

Thank you to each of you for serving this coming year. We appreciate your willingness to give your time to serve as a club officer.

Terry Rutledge, after being Field Trip Chair for a number of years, is stepping down. Terry, thank you for the many photographic opportunities you have led us to.

Wenxing Qiu and Justin Thurman have volunteered to serve as our new Field Trip Chairs. Thank you to you both.

Year-End Competition for 2025-2026

You should have received an email message from our club secretary, **Rachel Burychka**, listing your eligible entries, prints and/or projected images, for the club year 2025-2026.

At the **July 7** Competition Meeting, submit your **year-end print selections** to **Leslie Niemand**. You may submit one image from each print category—Pictorial, Nature, Photojournalism, Travel, Creative, Monochrome and Unlimited.

Year-end projected images entries are due **July 7** to **Marilyn Holloway** at hccprojection@gmail.com. You may submit one image from each category—Pictorial, Nature, Photojournalism, Travel, Creative, and Monochrome.

There are no year-end competitions for Assignments.

Get your entries organized and submitted. Here is your opportunity to show the best of this year's work. Year-end results will be announced and awards presented at the Awards Banquet, **August 18**.

No Field Trips July—September.

It is a club policy to take a break during the summer months. Our field trips will resume in October.

Tips For Better Fireworks Images

Use a Tripod Since you will be shooting at longer shutter speeds, you need to avoid any movement of the camera.

Use a Remote Release You want to have your camera stable and avoid movement.

Scope out the location early. Think about what is in the foreground and background of your shots. Make sure you won't have people's heads bobbing up into your shots. Also consider what impact you'll have on others around you.

Keep the horizon level

Vertical or horizontal Try both orientations of the camera. See which you prefer.

Focal length Use manual focusing. Focus at infinity. Pre-focus.

Frame Your Image Pre-frame, using a wider frame. Cropping later is always a choice.

Aperture Shoot between f/8 and f/16

Shutter speed Consider using bulb mode to control the length of the exposure. Hit the shutter as the firework is about to explode and hold it down until it's finished exploding (generally a few seconds).

ISO Shoot with as low an ISO as possible to avoid noise. Use ISO 100 if possible.

No flash

Experiment And check your results

Take lots of shots. And have fun.

Take lots of shots And, have fun.

Awards Dinner—August 18

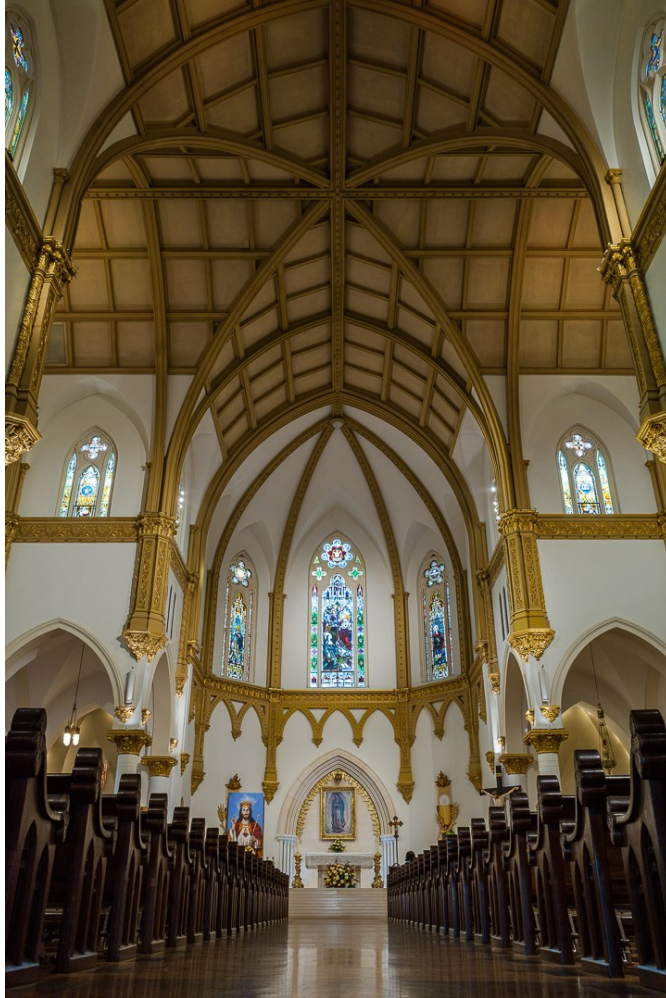
Grab your calendar and mark out the evening of August 18 for some good food, interesting people to talk to, and many photography awards.

The dinner is potluck. Please start planning what you will bring. Sign ups available on July 7 at the competition meeting, also August 4.

See you August 18 at Bayland for a fun evening.

Earl Gilbert Architectural Award Winner

Wenxing Qiu is the winner of the Architectural Award for 2025-2026.



Cathedral Guadalupe

By: Wenxing Qiu

June Competition Results

Judged June 2, 2026

Judges: Bill Dupre, Mark Katz, John Niemand,

Projected Images

Pictorial Category – 6 entries

1 st (22 pts)	Bronzed Cow Bird Portrait	R. Burychka
	Hoodoo Sunrise	J. Nielsen
	Totality	W. Qiu
2 nd (19 pts)	Leaf With Hole	T. Rutledge
3 rd (18 pts)	Leap Of Faith	J. Thurman
(16 pts)	Church Altar	C. Edwards

Nature Category – 5 entries

1 st (22 pts)	Shrooms	R. Burychka
2 nd (18 pts)	Ruddy Turnstone Foraging	W. Qiu
	Standing Among Giants	D. Kabanuck
3 rd (16 pts)	Hill Country Stream	T. Rutledge
	Peeking At You	J. Nielsen

Photojournalism Category – 1 entry

1 st (17 pts)	Picnic Band, 1968	B. Burychka
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Travel Category – 2 entries

1 st (22 pts)	Sunset Karst Guilin China	J. Thurman
2 nd (20 pts)	Majestic Half Dome	D. Kabanuck

Creative Category – 2 entries

1 st (21 pts)	Rafting Around The World	J. Thurman
2 nd (20 pts)	Sailboats	T. Rutledge

Monochrome Category – 3 entries

1 st (19 pts)	Hartman Bridge, Ship Channel	M. Holloway
	Intrigued	D. Kabanuck
2 nd (18 pts)	Goodnight Ranch + Chuck Wagon	T. Rutledge

Assignment Category *Food* – 1 entry

Winner	Deep Fried With Very Hot Sauce	T. Rutledge
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Prints

Pictorial Category – 2 entries

1 st (21 pts)	Alone In Sheldon Lake	J. Nielsen
2 nd (20 pts)	Traditional Wood Worker	R. Sanchez

Nature Category – 2 entries

1 st (20 pts)	Hiding	R. Sanchez
2 nd (19 pts)	Pink & Blue	J. Nielsen

Photojournalism Category – 1 entry

1 st (18 pts)	Coffee Production Line	J. Nielsen
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Travel Category – 1 entry

1 st (20 pts)	Folklorico Dancers In Motion	J. Thurman
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Creative Category – 2 entries

1 st (22 pts)	Brewing Up Trouble	M. Holloway
2 nd (21 pts)	Dinosaur Out The Window	R. Sanchez

Monochrome Category – 3 entries

1 st (22 pts)	Orchid	M. Holloway
2 nd (20 pts)	Cypress Reflections	J. Nielsen
	Orb	T. Rutledge
3 rd (19 pts)	Church Of Our Lady	R. Sanchez

Unlimited – 0 entries

Assignment Category *Food* - 2 entries

Winner	Crab Is His Favorite Food	M. Holloway
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Majestic Half Dome

By: Dan Kabanuck



PSA Interclub Competitions

No Results Reported

GSCCC Interclub Competitions

Judged June, 2026

By: Cowtown Camera Club

GSCCC Color Images

Hoodoo Sunrise	Jim Nielsen	11*
World Cup Soccer Is Coming	Buz Cabral	11
Tunnel View	Ross McEathron	10
Bronzed Cow Bird Portrait	Rachel Burychka	9

* Jim received a 2nd Alternaate Award. Nice work.

GSCCC Monochrome Images

Bird Turtle And Tadpole	Wenxing Qiu	12*
Math Formulas In Antique Book	Marilyn Holloway	10
Spyder	Hafeez Mian	10
Majestic Half Dome	Dan Kabanuck	7

* Wenxing received a 2nd Alternate Award. Way to Go.

GSCCC Nature Images

Effective Capture	Marilyn Holloway	15*
Redish Egret Dinner	Rachel Burychka	13#
Chicks Are Wanting	Jim Nielsen	12
Hummingbird Sipping Lantana	Buz Cabral	11

Marilyn received a 2nd Place Award. Wow!

Rachel received a 2nd Alternate Award. Very good work.

GSCCC Photojournalism Images

Dragon Dance	Wenxing Qiu	11*
Straining For Another Inch	Marilyn Holloway	11
Mutton Bustin	Justin Thurman	10
The Pack Stretches Out	Jim Nielsen	9

*Wenxing received a 2nd Honorable Mention Award. Very Nice.



Sailboats

By: Terry Rutledge



Sunset Karst Guilin China

By: Justin Thurman

The Rangefinder is a publication of the Houston Camera Club, Houston, Texas. www.houstoncameraclub.org

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News Deadline: Third Tuesday

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