



# Shutter Release

Next Meeting:

**Wednesday, September 17, 2014**

Room HQ2-1A-280A&B

Wine & Cheese starts at 5.45 pm.

Meeting starts at 6.30 pm

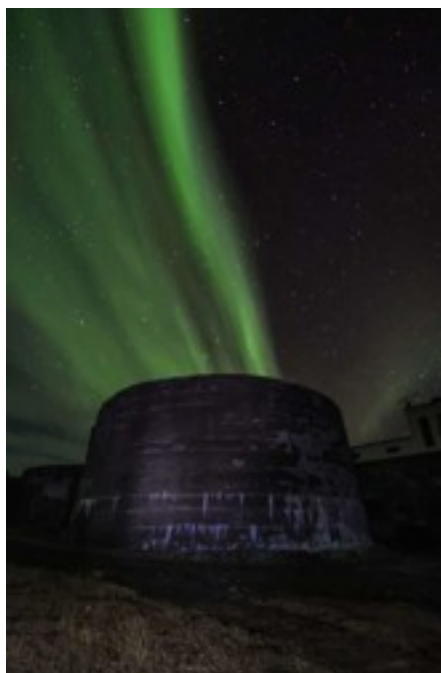
## Speaker: Sean Blue

Sean teaches photography at Boston University's Center for Digital Imaging Arts in Georgetown. His presentation is called:

### **Chasing the Aurora Borealis**

*The People, Landscapes and Spirits of Iceland's Arctic Lands*

Sean will discuss his 13-year chase of the aurora borealis where the road ends in the Arctic.



## In this issue:

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## REMINDER

Please pay your **membership dues** to be able to take part in the September competition: \$40 to Bermet Sydygalieva. Access the [Membership form](#)

[IPSwebsite](#)



[FlickrGallery](#)



[Facebook](#)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear members,

Welcome to a brand new season –the 49<sup>th</sup> to be exact–of IPS! I hope you all had a great summer with many opportunities to take exciting photographs.

Before I kick off the season with what is coming up, let me first make a plea (or two): We **need volunteers**; in particular, a Program Director to serve alongside Keith Miao, since Toko Kato is moving away, and a Hospitality Director, as Adrian Fernandez has kindly filled two years in this position. **Many thanks once again to Toko and Adrian for all the hard work they put into our club!** We also need everyone to **pay their membership dues!** Contact Bermet to do so at your earliest convenience, and remember, to participate in the monthly meetings, dues need to be paid. Now, on to the new season!

As you may know, this season we have a number of exciting changes. Many of them are in response to the feedback that we got from you and our judges in the past.

I for one am most excited about the **Lecture Series**, which will help us learn more about the art of photography. The first lecture is slated for **November 4<sup>th</sup>**, and will be by Victoria Restrepo called **Fundamentals of Art History for Photographers**. Mark your calendars already! And if you have any **ideas or suggestions** for other workshops or seminars, please get in touch with our VP **Michele Egan** ([alsacienne@aol.com](mailto:alsacienne@aol.com)).

For this month, we have a dynamite speaker, **Sean Blue**. Besides teaching at the Boston University Center for Digital Imaging Arts and running a professional photography studio, Sean chases the aurora borealis phenomenon, his passion for which is simply contagious.

As for next month, please bear in mind that the only competition format will be **print**. At our meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup>, we will discuss good printing options around town, and share tips about printing better at home. I hope members who have experience in this area (and I cannot really count myself in that category) will share their knowledge with the others.

Last but definitely not least, I want to recall one more time our dear friend and long-time member, **Sena Eken**, who passed away on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. She was a dedicated member who contributed to IPS activities and always made the time to attend our meetings, even towards the end as her health was deteriorating. We are lucky to have enjoyed her company at the opening reception of our annual exhibition on May 5<sup>th</sup>, where she proudly displayed a total of 8 winning images, one of the most successful displays among exhibiting photographers. Our thoughts are with her and her family, and she will be deeply missed.

With that, I wish you all a wonderful and productive season.

*Ceyda*



## A TRIBUTE TO SENA EKEN



*It is with deep sadness that we learned our beloved member Sena Eken passed away on June 3.*

*Sena was one of the most active members of IPS. Defying her deteriorating health, she always made time for photography, participating in the monthly meetings with her husband George. She was in great spirits at the Opening Reception of the Annual Exhibition. Let's remember Sena for her cheerful disposition, her elegance and warm friendship.*

*The IPS member profile below was published in the April 2013 issue of Shutter Release.*

**Where do you work?** I retired from the IMF at the end of 2009. Since then I have been working on a project on the transformation of the political economy in Turkey during 2000-10, which recently got published as a book. I will continue to work on projects related to the Turkish economy, but hope to have more time to travel and pursue my hobbies, including photography.

**What got you started on photography?** I have been interested in photography since my childhood. While I was growing up, I traveled a lot and had great fun with my family and friends. By taking pictures, I captured those moments in time and was able to store and bring those precious memories back.

**What interests you most about photography now?** Even today, what interests me most about photography is to capture a moment in time, be it an event, a person, or a place. However, I now also see an opportunity to capture the moment creatively by powerful compositions, design, and lighting rather than through ordinary photographs. By seeing and photographing creatively, I can tell a powerful story without words or leave the interpretation of the story completely to viewers.



*"It was my first image exhibited at an IPS annual exhibit"*



## A TRIBUTE TO SENA EKEN: HER PHOTOS



Sena's photos at the 2014 Annual Exhibition



Sneakers



Geometric Ceiling



Butterfly



Reflections on Water



Gezi Park 1

## 2014/2015 SEASON SCHEDULE AND THEMES

Date	Competition Type	Theme
September 17, 2014	Electronic Image Competition (EIC)	<b>People</b>
October 15, 2014	Print	Open
November 19, 2014	EIC	<b>Emptiness</b> Images that convey a sense of physical or emotional emptiness
December 17, 2014	Print	Open
January 21, 2015	EIC	<b>Humor</b> Images that convey or display humor
February 18, 2015	Print	Open
March 18, 2015	EIC	<b>Silhouettes</b> Images where the main subject are silhouettes
Apr 22, 2015	Print	Open
May 20, 2015	EIC	<b>Bizarre</b> Images that show a bizarre object or situation, or give a sense of the strange and unusual
June 1 to July 6, 2015 (tentative)	Annual Exhibition	

**REMINDER: NEW MONTHLY COMPETITION RULES (IN EFFECT AS OF SEPTEMBER 2014)**

- There will be one type of competition per month. The schedule will start in September with EIC, followed by Print in October, alternating each month throughout the season.
- Each EIC has a pre-announced theme, and each print competition is open.
- The number of entries per photographer is 3 for both EIC and print competition.
- 20% of entrants will be awarded in each competition (1st, 2nd, 3rd and honorable mentions).

## IPS MEMBER RICHARD QUESNEL BECOMES CANADA PSA DIRECTOR

Extract from the PSA Newsletter of  
August 4, 2014:

**Québec Membership Director  
Announcement**

**Richard Quesnel**  
[rquesnel9@gmail.com](mailto:rquesnel9@gmail.com)

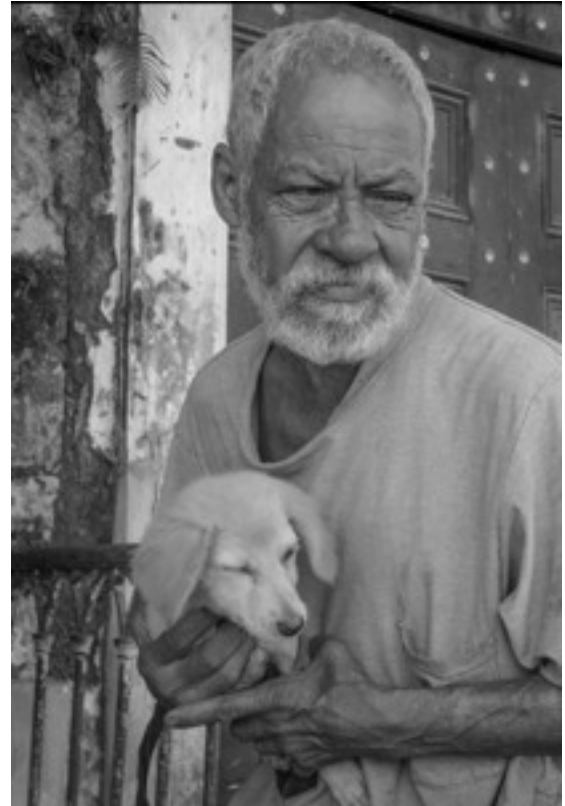
Richard started taking pictures around age 17 during a scouting bike trip from Ottawa (Canada) to Kingston (Ontario) via Alexandria Bay (USA). When 19, he rented a downtown apartment with his brother; the kitchen was the lab and the bedroom became an elementary studio.

Picture-taking was of friends, rock groups, family events and sailing. Once married, sailing disappeared and his photography became family pictures.

In 2007, Richard returned to "more serious" image-making and he invested in a serious digital camera along with image processing software. Richard has been a PSA member since 2008. From 2008 to 2010 he was the PSA representative and coordinator with the Photographic Society of the World Bank / International Monetary Fund. Richard retired from active work in 2011.

He is currently an active Member of the Association des Photographes Artisans de Laval near Montréal ([www.clubapal.com](http://www.clubapal.com)) and is also active with a local club called Passion Photo Laurentides ([www.passionphotolaurentides.org](http://www.passionphotolaurentides.org)).

Richard has taken numerous workshops and until recently was a commentator for PSA in two Digital Study Groups. He is currently doing less photo projects but is still getting great enjoyment out of picture-taking. He is fluent in English and French with "some" Spanish and is looking forward to this next challenge. His website is at : [www.quesnelenimages.com](http://www.quesnelenimages.com).



Benito y Pepito, Havana, Cuba, 2012 by  
Richard Quesnel



Access the [PSA website](http://www.psa.org)

## FROM THE IPS FACEBOOK PAGE

- See tiny people in Nancy Lee's [Global Village](#) photos
- Learn how to photograph [waterfalls](#)
- Contribute your views to [controversial photos](#) of his 2-year old daughter by photographer Wyatt Neumann
- Discover the best places to [get your photos printed](#)
- See [faces of aliens](#) (or are they?)
- Admire finalist photos of the [Smithsonian 11th Annual Photo Contest](#)
- Do you need a lens filter? [Find out](#)
- Watch [Scrublands](#), images of people who have decided to leave cities by Antoine Bruy
- Check out which wild animals have taken over [empty houses](#)
- Participate in [Nature Visions Photo Expo 2014](#) on Nov. 14-16 in Manassas, Virginia
- Find out the [best photography spots](#) in DC
- Meet the [blind photographer](#)
- Get inspired by beautiful [reflection photos](#)
- See the [25 best World Cup photos](#)
- Grow younger with these [30 photos of children playing](#) around the world
- Be fully prepared with the [ultimate list of online resources](#) for being a better photographer
- Appreciate the [symmetry of underground metros](#)

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| • Prashant Tanavade | • Antoine Lema          |
| • Roman Didenko     | • Anna Strandquist      |
| • Matthew Fisher    | • Barbara Mieroau-Klein |
| • Marie Jeffsell    |                         |



## HOW JUDGES CRITIQUE PHOTO COMPETITION: ARTISTIC CRITERIA AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS

by Bill Katzenstein

*This is part 2 of the article published in the May 2014 Shutter Release. With sincere apologies to Bill for cutting off his article halfway.*

13. Presentational faults: Judges may reject print entries because the size is considered too small to effectively illustrate the content. At the other extreme, an organization may have size limitations on entries. Occasionally a judge will rule an image out because a mat is slightly crooked or ajar, or for other such presentational snafus.

Serious photographers, of course, are not unaware of these issues. Some flaws can be avoided with adequate preparation, or digitally corrected; yet many shooting situations are so impromptu or otherwise difficult to perfect that technical issues remain a challenge for the most expert photographers.

### **Aesthetic Considerations: Photography as Art**

Clear of the technical obstacle course, a photograph may illustrate beauty or other impression, powerful or subtle, but still not win an award. The bar is high and may seem unreasonably difficult because of the subjective nature of art together with the straight odds against placing in a competition. Typically between 10% and 25% of entries can win or place, depending on the rules adopted by the sponsoring organization.

Of numerous descriptions of the singular impression a superior image may offer, one that succinctly sums it up was remarked by photographer (and competition judge) Lucian Perkins in a talk to the International

Photographic Society in January 2001. He advised that a winning photograph, “. . . must have something that drives me further than the norm. Subtlety with complexity, and that you are compelled to study more, which grabs you.” Or in other words, a winning image should show the viewer something new or novel that sparks their interest and admiration. An image they would want to take some time to peruse and explore, or lose themselves in.

In my experience, a great photograph and sure winner evokes awe, a sense of wonder and admiration that returns with anticipation when the picture is viewed again after some time.

Further, especially in situations of tight competition, merit with respect to production of the image may enter into consideration with aesthetics. That is, more than one judge has commented that they assess photographs at least partly according to the care and expertise that appear to have gone into creating the image. Other judges have remarked that they are more likely to select a quality entry that appears to be accompanied in the competition by pieces of obviously similar style, in recognition of photographers who have submitted more than a single example of fine work.

### **The Judge's Call**

Many judges stress the subjective nature of photography as art, indicating that what most impresses them would not necessarily sway others. Some admit to certain biases in assessing photographs, such as dislike of utterly abstract, digitally conceived imagery. A few judges have confessed to not being flower



## HOW JUDGES CRITIQUE PHOTO COMPETITION:

### ARTISTIC CRITERIA AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS (CONTINUED)

buffs; others may prefer particular kinds of entries. Since most photo clubs feature various theme nights, photographers keen on competition know their odds improve by diversifying.

#### Individual Characteristics of Winning Photos

While there is no step-by-step recipe for producing award-winning, artful photos, certain characteristics are evident. Over and above an absence of technical flaws, finalist photos are frequently:

1. Of character: The subject, whether human, flora, fauna, geographic or architectural, has a distinctive and appealing presence or intrigue. The essence may be entirely innate—an expert rendition of essentially unaffected reality by the photographer—or the effect may have been enhanced by the photographer, using techniques to bring out the best of the subject.
2. Creative: Judges tend to prefer subjects and composition they have not seen before, rather than common subjects. While most judges would not rule out selecting a sunset as a winning photograph, such a piece would have to be absolutely spectacular in order to make up for its commonality. Photo entries featuring popular landmarks (e.g., national monuments) and what appear to be family pictures may fare even worse, because of a sense that these subjects lack the originality expected of art.
3. Direct and to the point: The subject and theme of a great photo are immediately obvious. A not infrequent critique is that an image is “too busy” or multifaceted, which

is an aesthetic rather than technical judgment.

4. Either rich in color saturation or delicately shaded: Both approaches accentuate mood. In black-and-white imagery, high contrast with strong blacks and whites without sacrificing detail creates a compelling tension. Low contrast, to the extent an image may appear nearly gray, is not infrequently grounds for rejection.
5. Composed to the “Rule of Thirds”: A landscape or waterside image composed as if set on a grid of thirds tends to appeal to the aesthetic senses of balance and order. This is certainly not an ironclad rule, but the photographer would benefit over time by keeping it in mind as an option.
6. Light transcendence: Highlighting the essence of the subject through a delicate interval of sunlight or other bright illumination tends to create inspiring photographs.

The subjective nature of art cannot be overemphasized. In assessing photos in competition, judges may ultimately narrow the field through the reluctant, albeit straightforward admission that one photograph simply impresses them more than another, without further explanation. Lesson: If you believe you have a winning photo, are sure it projects a strong impression and has no technical flaws to speak of, do not be discouraged. Continue to compete the image, and it will likely achieve the recognition it deserves.

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CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR SEPTEMBER 20

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Michele, our Vice President, is coordinating a group of volunteer photographers to cover a **Suicide Prevention event** on the Mall on September 20 from 3pm-8pm.

The event, under sponsorship of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, is a fund and awareness raiser, as well as an occasion to remember and share with others.

It consists in a four-mile walk around the Mall, ending with a candlelight ceremony and testimonies, and is preceded by various activities ahead of the walk. About 2,000 walkers are expected to attend.

This is organized entirely by volunteers, and Michele is looking for photographers to work in two-hour shifts and take photos, which will be used for publicity and promotional activities as well as to document the event.

In addition to getting credit for any picture used, photographers would be listed as part of the sponsors for the event (at the event and on the AFSP's webpage).

If you are interested, please contact Michele directly at: [alsacienne@aol.com](mailto:alsacienne@aol.com)

Thank you

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MAY WINNING IMAGES

ELECTRONIC COMPETITION B . THEME: AMERICANA

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1st Place: Ihor Rykov. Jazz



2nd Place: Manuel Morquecho. My Home

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MAY WINNING IMAGES

ELECTRONIC COMPETITION B . THEME: AMERICANA

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3rd place: Yeva Avakyan. Flirt



HM: Xiangli Qin. Bonfire



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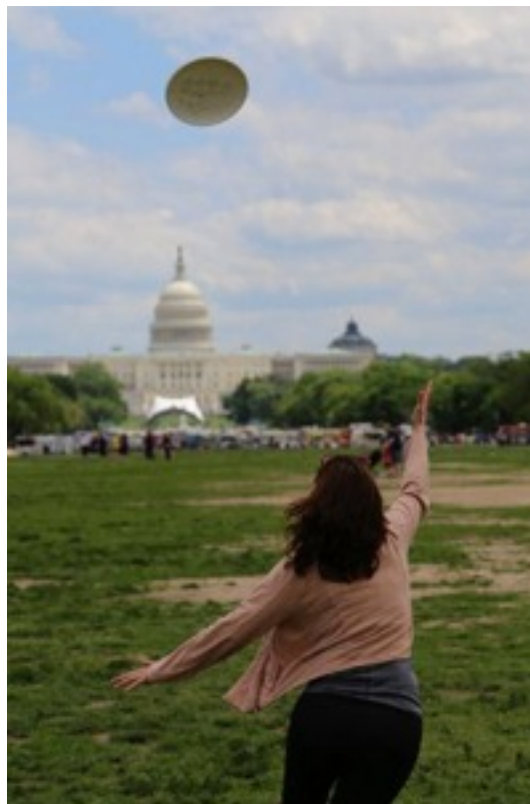
MAY WINNING IMAGES

ELECTRONIC COMPETITION B . THEME: AMERICANA

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HM: Kemal Cakici. Lady in Red



HM: Bermet Sydyqalieva. Frisbee on the Mall

## MAY WINNING IMAGES

### ELECTRONIC COMPETITION B . THEME: AMERICANA



HM: Adriana Triana. Route 66b

### ELECTRONIC COMPETITION A . THEME: AMERICANA



1st Place: Jevqenijs Bujanovs. Independence Day 2

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MAY WINNING IMAGES

ELECTRONIC COMPETITION A . THEME: AMERICANA

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2nd Place: Alex Culiuc. Marilyn Conquers Chicago



3rd Place: Carmen Machicado. Fall in the East



## MAY WINNING IMAGES

### ELECTRONIC COMPETITION A . THEME: AMERICANA



HM: Dorte Verner. Speed 9683



HM: Emine Gurqen. Vietnam Memories



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MAY WINNING IMAGES

ELECTRONIC COMPETITION A . THEME: AMERICANA

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HM: Jevgenijs Bujanovs. Independence Day



HM: Lionel Gahima. Waving Flag

MAY WINNING IMAGES.		
Print Competition B - Open (16 images)		
1st place	Manuel Morquecho	Watching
2nd place	Kemal Cakici	Face of Innocence
3rd place	Kemal Cakici	The Lighthouse
HM	Manuel Morquecho	Guerra
Print Competition A - Open (17 images)		
1st place	Jevgenijs Bujanovs	Ride Run and Rest
2nd place	Jevgenijs Bujanovs	Human Curiosity
3rd place	Dorte Verner	Karo Girl
HM	Alex Culiuc	Everyday Lima I
Electronic Competition B - Americana (29 images)		
1st place	Ihor Rykov	Jazz
2nd place	Manuel Morquecho	My Home
3rd place	Yeva Avakyan	Flirt
HM	Bermet Sydygalieva	Frisbee on the Mall
HM	Kemal Cakici	Lady in Red
HM	Xiangli Qin	Bonfire
HM	Adriana Triana	Route 66 b
Electronic Competition A - Americana (28 images)		
1st place	Jevgenijs Bujanovs	Independence Day 2
2nd place	Alex Culiuc	Marilyn Conquers Chicago
3rd place	Carmen Machicado	Fall in the East
HM	Lionel Gahima	Waving Flag
HM	Emine Gurgen	Vietnam Memories
HM	Jevgenijs Bujanovs	Independence Day
HM	Dorte Verner	Speed 9683

## POINTS TABLE: FINAL SCORES FOR 2013-2014 SEASON

Name	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Ann. Exhibit	Total
<b>A</b>											
Verner Dorte	8	12	11	5	11	11	7	12	8	9	94
Bujanovs Jevgenijs	5	9	9	9	12	9	6	7	19	8	93
Culiuc Alex	14	6	13	5	11	5	11	9	9	8	91
Oner Ceyda	13	8	10	5	5	13	6	8	5	10	83
Gürgeç Emine	5	13	5	9	6	6	11	12	6	2	75
Miao Keith	10	5	11	5	7	10	6	8	5	2	69
Rani Manorma	7	5	5	6	7	10	6	5	5	2	58
Thurein Win Aung	11	8	5	8	5	5	5	5	5		57
Eken Sena	5	10	7	7	6	7	5	5			52
Egan Michele	5	10	5		6	5	5	7	5	4	52
Wilson Mary	6	6	5	10	5	5			5		42
Machicado Carmen		6	5	6	6	5		5	7	2	42
Palmioli Manuella Lea	5	5	6	5	5	5	5	5			41
Boyd Jean	5	5		5	5	5	5	5	5		40
Forest-Sarr Louise	6			7		5	11	6	5		40
Gahima Lionel				10	5	5	5	5	6		36
Sarr Bassirou	6			6		5	5	5	5		32
Cochard Fred			5		6	5	7	5			28
Quesnel Richard				6	7	6		7			26
Titsworth Morin Raphaël	7				5						12
Morin Denyse	5				5						10
Bosier Victor							5				5
<b>B</b>											
Morquecho Manuel *		7		9	8	8	13	11	14	2	72
Karsten Junius	8	8	11	5	8	5	6	5	5		61
Zhang Yanna	7	7	8	10	5	8	5	5	5		60
Sydygalieva Bermet	8	5	5	6	5	7	5	5	6	2	54
Fernandez Adrian	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	5	5		52
George Rama	5	5	5	10	5	5	6	5	5		51
Rigaud Chantal	6	5	6	5	5	6	6	6	5		50
Andritzky Jochen *			6	12	5	11		11		2	47
Avakyan Yeva *					10	5	9	8	7	7	46
Kato Toko	5	5	5		6	5	5	5	5		41
Arbatli Elif		9	10	5	5	6				2	37
Cakici Kemal					13	5	5		11		34
Sanghani Chirag				6	5	8	5	5			29
Bouso Dieng Adji *	5	5	5			5	5				25
Lumanau Angela	7	5	5		6						23
Mziray Elizabeth			5			6	5	5			21
Burton Vicki *	5	5		5		5					20
Rykov Igor *								6	10		16
Saxegaard Magnus *			5		6	5					16
Tischendorf Susanne							7	7			14
Peng Xiaoxiao *								8	5		13
Titsworth Jack	6				6						12
Santala Satu *				5		7					12
Qin Xiangli *								5	6		11
Triana Adriana	5								6		11
Ringlien Clarisa	5	5									10
Ongwen Mary *								5	5		10
Toledo Sergio *								6			6
Rowena Delacruz								6			6
Castillo Elsa *								5			5
Ingram Patricija							5				5
Azari Sardar *											5
Enomura Yoko	5				5						5
Winkler Hernan	5										5

\* Eligible for Rookie of the Year Please check your awards & score. For questions, email Evgenijs Bujanovs bujanovs@me.com

## IPS EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

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Editor	Chantal Rigaud		<a href="mailto:crigaud@worldbank.org">crigaud@worldbank.org</a>

*Shutter Release welcomes article ideas and submissions from club members. Unless specified otherwise by e-mail, the deadline for submissions is close of business on the last business day of the month prior to the issue month. Please send submissions by e-mail to the editor(s) as unformatted word or text files. If you wish to add images, please make sure that the longest side does not exceed 800 pixels.*