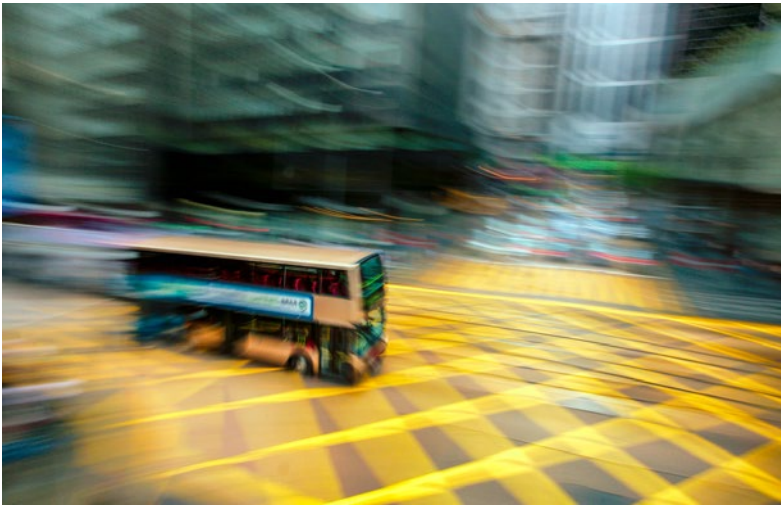


Landscape Art

Color Category September 2021



1st Place **ANGELA PANLILIO**

Quintessential Hong Kong.

I was standing on the bridge way overlooking the busiest tram intersection in Central, Hong Kong. The colors, the buzz and the vibe was difficult to convey without showing motion. I attempted to pan. After many tries, finally captured this chamba shot!

2nd Place **JEFF DYTUCO**

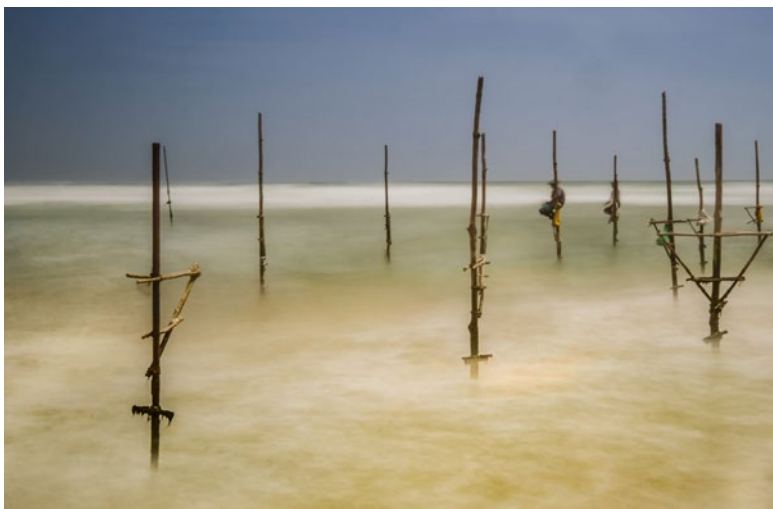
A long exposure shot of the iconic gondolas in Venice, Italy during the blue hour.



3rd Place **ANGELA PANLILIO**

Sri Lanka Stillness.

Last fishing run for the stilt fishermen before the day ends. I attempted to capture the serenity of the scene by blurring and slowing with use of filters. Was pretty surprised it turned out as it did. A serene blur.



President's Message

Greetings to all of you.

Last quarter of the year is now behind us. I am sure that we are helping everyone to grow more and do more, and each of us have already done our part to bring in new members.

October is the month of HOPE for our club, the Zone Five Camera Club, because this is the time and the way for us, photographers, to personally give back and share to others our talents in capturing images by helping people improve their lives. We make photographs for a variety of reasons. For some, photography is a profession. For others, it's a necessary outlet for creative energy. But, while many of us get a great deal from photography, we can also use it to give back.

Photography is also a community of providing projects that provides service to other people and can change their lives. It is more important to click with people than to click the shutter.

To all of us, let us help and work together to support our milestone project- "Images of H.O.P.E and our External Launch of the ZVCC website- the Z Hub.

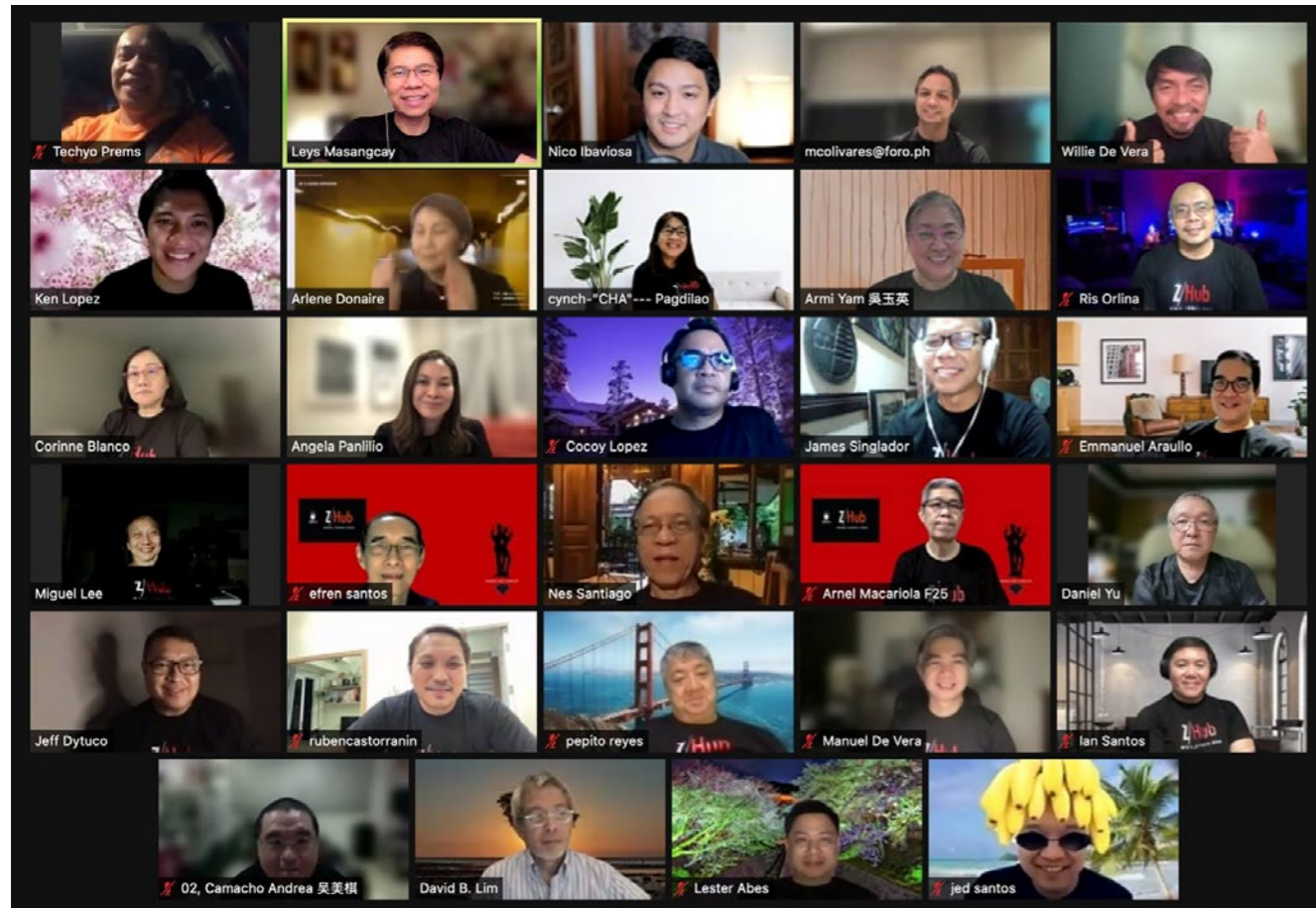
Let us participate and get involved by Helping Others Prosper and Excel.

Thank you and have a good day.

Cha Pagdilao
2021 President
Zone V Camera Club



September Meeting



Sitting here thinking about how to describe Arlene Donaire's talk in Z-Academy last September 16, 2021, I'm feeling a little perplexed by how to do it justice. The first visual that comes to mind is an image of Tank from the movie The Matrix to plug you in when you want to know about travel photography. Arlene just had so much information to share and so little time to share it. If that introduction gave you the impression that the talk was disorganized and/or long winded. Far from it!

Arlene in her usual obsessive-compulsive self has taken the time to organize the talk in stages; starting with what travel photography is to her and described her journey to date before sharing her thoughts in creating visual

stories and what she coins as her not so usual tips. Like with many of us, Arlene's love for travel photography emerged during a particularly notable time in her life, where so many different things were happening and the only way to stay sane was to get lost in her own art and travel. Merging the two was quite simply, a logical next step. What bloomed after that was a marriage made in heaven. Travel photography for Arlene is the amalgamation of the poetry of photographs and the prose of her written account. It is in combining her two strengths that she can transport us with her; experiencing what she experienced, smelling the same scent, and feeling the same texture.

(Continued next page)



It's Thursday night, at 7:55 P.M. I open my zoom application and log in to the pre-assigned meeting room. Veejay Villafranca is presenting his photographic body of work, his thoughts and experiences in photography. I enter the room and the fun begins...

One of the highlights of any Zone 5 meeting is the friendly banter that goes on before the actual presentation. It's hilarious and it lasts about 15 minutes. It helps break the ice with any presenter and gives him a quick glimpse into who Zone 5 is. Zone 5 is a fun-loving bunch after all. I digress.

Veejay Villafranca is a remarkably established photographer, especially given that he is just shy of 40 years old and received the Ian Parry Scholarship grant for his project on the lives of former gang members of Manila when he was 26 years old. His photographs have been exhibited around the world. Journalism is in his heritage. His father was a photojournalist for a government housing agency and his grandfather was a journalist for a national broadsheet. Veejay began in the same way as a staff photographer covering national affairs. In 2006 he became a freelancer and full-time documentary photographer.

(Continued next page)

(From page 3)

In reading her articles, it's like stepping into a time machine transcending both time and space. Wish as I might, to be able to list down the myriad of tips she shared it cannot be. Alas! I am limited in words and space in this article. But if I must choose one take away; it would be the making of a shot list prior to any trip. Shoot the 6 P's (she has clearly added to this list since she taught me this technique years ago); people, places, practices, products, progress, and potpourri. So, the next time you travel to any location, look for the 6 P's and be ready to shoot. Don't get discouraged if the elements or situations prevent you; that's part of travel photography. Being nimble and prepared to change plans is part of it. And finally, take copious notes so that you can be reminded of the experience when you begin to write about it.

Finally, Arlene shared her insight into travel photography being not just

about taking photographs or selfies of the usual suspects. If you must, go and see those landmarks. But do not forget to visit the local market; to experience the local culture and be familiar with how the locals live as

this will give your images and your stories context and perhaps, just maybe, you'll be able to transport your readers back in time as well. Arlene's talk lasted well beyond the allotted hour; closer to two. Checking



on the attendees though, I noticed that every single person in the audience was glued to their seats. Each person transported into their own travels and personal worlds. This pandemic has affected each of us in varying degrees of severity. Hearing Arlene talk about travel though, gave us a sense of hope and longing for our own plans for travel.

Where will your next travel shoot take you? Stay safe, keep healthy and be well. Till our next Z-Academy, I bid you adieu.

Story by Tony Rivera

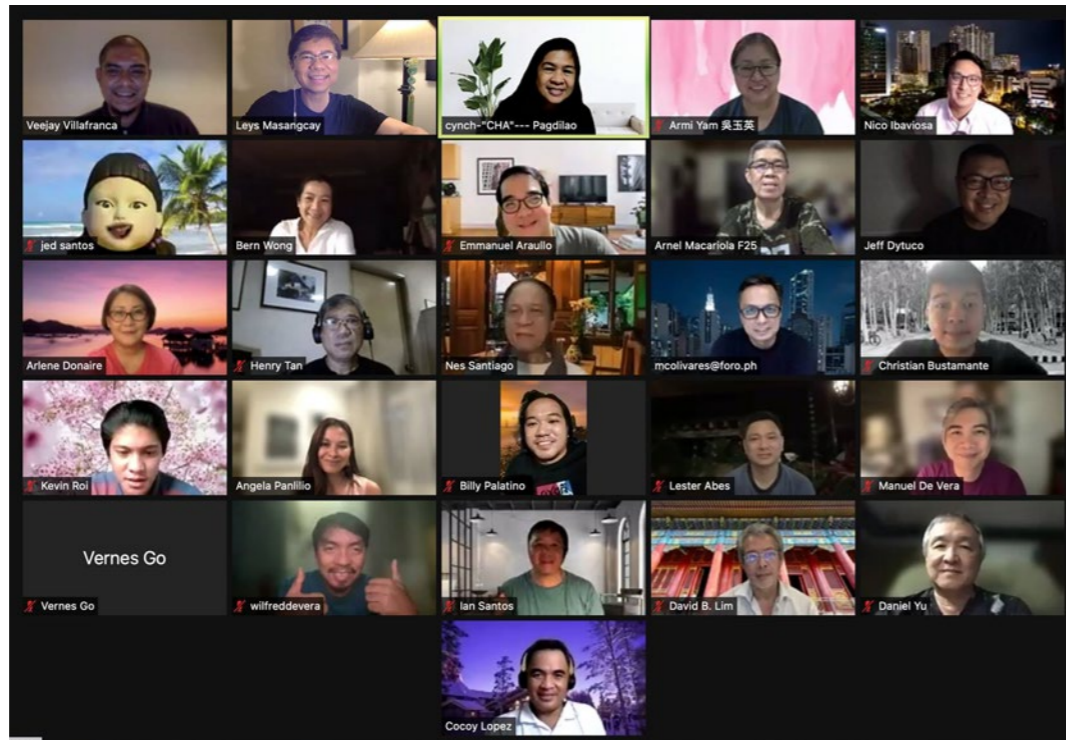


(From page 3)

"Framing Hard Truths" is part of an ongoing series of lectures, where Veejay discusses representation, project methodologies, and challenges, that visual journalists face.

The book "Boyhood in Monsoon Country" by Maximo D. Ramos opened up the concept of Folklore, Oral History and Tradition as the narrative. According to Veejay, it was inspirational in trying to understand and present in his photographs how Filipinos deal with typhoons and calamities.

Veejay's photography is never static. His photos tell a complete story. Context gives more meaning, he explains, and photos should stand on its own, but a story adds value. He searches for new ways to present his stories; at one time using multiple exposures on a panoramic camera. This resulted in images are both realistic and abstract at the same time. It's a tapestry of



forms and tones, which keep the viewer entranced. He had also used an iPhone with double exposures, in photographing a women's shelter, because we were not allowed to show the faces of the women. Using double exposure technique, he was

able to create an abstraction of the woman and the leaves from a tree. The resulting image symbolized hope.

Signos, Veejay's book was published in 2017. It is the culmination of 6

years of documenting communities that had been displaced by natural disasters. In the book, the "Windmills of Ilocos" with the man on a horse in the foreground and the stunning "Bessonesque Laguna Tent City" photograph were among the many examples. His image of a boy swimming in the aftermath of the Tacloban disaster is carefully framed to contrast the apocalyptic nature of the disaster with the joy of a child

swimming. He had intended to express hopefulness in the image.

Villafranca has exhibited prints, transparencies on lightboxes. For his exhibit entitled Ironic, he had his images printed on metal sheets in a process called Aluminum Dye Bond. He searched for G.I. sheets around the area from which his photographs were made, giving it that extra contextual element. The resulting

print has a unique sheen but note that the image should have no White on the highlights. He has also done lenticular prints to show a theme focusing on the duality of Faith and Culture. Veejay is continuously working on his long-time project Barrio Sagrado, documenting the Filipino's relationship with Faith and Fate.

Finally, there is the challenge of presenting your vision, as an image after all requires an audience. There is publishing, either in books or pint media. There are online galleries and there are exhibits. When asked by Nico Ibaivosia on his thought process for projects, Veejay unequivocally states that it is always the photos first. The alignment of the theme usually comes after the photos.

So you see, Veejay Villafranca is continuously searching for new ways to best present his work to people who are living in an overly stimulated world. All I can say is, so far so good!

Story by Mike Olivares



Diary of a COVID-19 Front Line Photographer

We all know that everyone of us has been affected by the Covid-19 Pandemic - our economy, education, businesses, and especially health. So, when the vaccine finally became available, we had hopes that we would be able to recover from the pandemic, that soon we could back to normal again.

Since the pandemic started, I have had the urge to document what is happening in the hospitals - the daily routine of the medical workers, their suffering, and hardships, as front liners. But then, I was hesitant mainly because I'm neither a part of any medical team nor a photojournalist from a news outfit. But why the hospitals? Considering the situation now, we can clearly see that there are many real stories there. I wanted to capture, document, and share these stories. Was I afraid? Honestly, Yes. But the burning desire dominated my fear; maybe because it is really my dream to become a photojournalist someday.

Documenting events in Muntinlupa as a photographer is not new to me. Even before I started to take up photography as a serious hobby, I was already shooting events, projects and election campaigns in my city, as part of my duties in the Tourism and Culture Office. When I began shooting the COVID-19 vaccination program in Muntinlupa this year, it was mainly for my personal project only. But when I was assigned this year to be the Official Photographer of MunCoVac (Muntinlupa Covid Vaccination Program) covering all sites in the city, I was glad for the opportunity to have a hassle free documentation, as I wished before. It also gave me a chance to meet volunteers and other front liners and to interview the vaccinees on what made them decide to get their shots despite of potential side effects.

As a photojournalist practitioner I wanted to document the stories that took place during the vaccination campaign in Muntinlupa. I wanted to capture people's reactions while

they faced their respective fears, like injection and possible side effects of the vaccine on their body. In the nearly seven months of photo-documenting, I can say that I'd enjoyed what I do almost every day; going to different places and meeting different people. What I admired the most about are our medical front liners is that they never ceased to serve the country, notwithstanding the threat of the virus. They still managed to manifest a positive outlook.

While I had a constant fear that maybe one of the people I meet or talk to might be sick or infected and I might get the virus too, I didn't waver in what I was doing. My mind just kept on reminding me to get good shots and stories every day. For in time, this pandemic will just be a part of history. So will the photographs; these shall serve as imprint of the past. In my heart, I take comfort in the notion that later on, when I will just be sitting in a rocking chair, I will share my stories to my children and grandchildren, on how we combated and overcame the pandemic and how as I photographer, I became part of it all.

Story by Kevin Roi Lopez



As we probably all know by now, we have an enterprising group of members who have literally transformed the green color pixels from their images into their palms, by becoming farmers! They produce salad greens – lettuce and arugula, using hydroponics system. Since last year they have been regularly selling their harvests. If you haven't tried yet their fresh greens and delicious salad dressings, then it is time! We are featuring in this issue the group called Urban Growers Manila (UGM), a brainchild of members Argyle, Allin, Jen, Jeff, Ian, and Willie. They also own the photography business, Urban Prose Manila.



The beginning
Why was Urban Greens created? When did it start? Where is the farm?

UGM was created because we saw the potential for growing relatively clean and pesticide-free vegetables in small unused urban spaces. Our main

influence was Jorem Catilo (also a Zone V Member), who was doing his own urban hydroponics farming. We started our farm when pandemic was in full swing; our farms are in Pasig and Paco.

Starting Up and Operations
What did you have to learn and do to establish the farm? What were your start up challenges? How are you managing the farm?

We had to clean up and prepare viable spaces in Pasig and Paco, which were just underutilized and basically used as junk storage places. We had to learn all the basics- understanding what hydroponics farming is; how temperature, humidity, and water quality had to be monitored and managed; and what vegetables grow in our "tropicalized" conditions.

Argyle and I are more "hands-on" since we are related to the property owners, where the farms are located but all partners help manage the business in terms of sales and marketing, operations, bookkeeping/ accounting, delivery and scheduling.

Our biggest startup challenge was that no one among the partners had any agriculture background but this lack of experience was also an asset because everyone was willing to pitch in and learn and assist each other. We manage everything through open communication among all stakeholders (partners, suppliers)

Future Prospects
Are your sales going well? Is this a viable venture? - are you happy with the business? - what is your future plan?

Yes, we are doing okay in our sales; we try to sell all that we are able to harvest. In the future, we wish to be one of the major suppliers of hydroponically grown pesticide-free vegetable in the NCR. The hardest part in getting there and probably the biggest challenge, will be maintaining consistency in our production.

Written by Arlene Donaire based on interview with the UGM partners



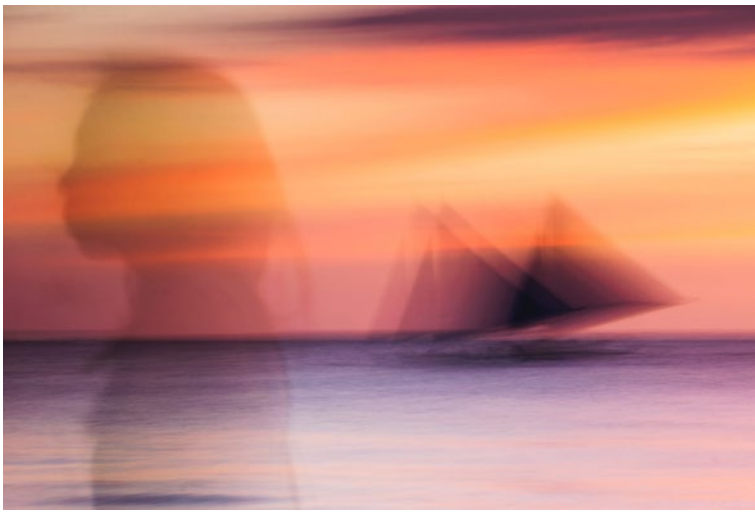
Landscape Art

Color Category - September 2021

(From page 1)

4th Place **JIAN CHOA**

Ocean Soul. I was leisurely panning sailboat shots and a stranger popped into the frame.



5th Place **DAVID LIM**

The magic of Xiapu, never fails.



Photographer Of The Year September Scores and Rankings

Photographer of the Month:
Angela Panlilio
Members' Cup:
Jeff Dytuco

RANK	MEMBER NAME	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	TOTAL
1	Angela Panlilio	7.740	8.622	9.432	9.386	8.161	7.416	8.522	7.854	8.717	75.850
2	Ruben Castor Ranin	7.947	7.973	9.141	8.631	8.763	8.483	7.816	8.74	7.490	74.985
3	Jeff Dytuco	7.753	8.161	8.799	9.055	8.361	8.062	8.328	8.152	8.311	74.982
4	David Lim	7.203	8.779	9.589	9.036	7.106	7.853	7.51	9.211	7.767	74.054
5	Danny Yu	7.585	8.246	8.592	8.670	8.144	8.436	7.811	8.407	8.028	73.918
6	Willie de Vera	7.263	7.777	9.237	9.364	8.631	7.851	7.951	7.803	8.017	73.894
7	Jed Santos	7.285	7.773	9.034	8.898	7.584	8.516	7.757	9.243	7.656	73.746
8	Ian Santos	7.433	7.806	8.896	9.253	8.013	7.910	8.37	7.389	8.081	73.150
9	Bern Wong	7.454	8.450	8.970	8.903	7.200	7.798	7.867	8.137	7.793	72.572
10	Arlene Donaïre	7.569	7.837	8.700	8.853	8.000	7.044	7.937	8.855	7.757	72.552
11	Keisie Marfil	7.563	7.774	8.020	9.030	7.372	7.857	8.121	8.733	7.767	72.237
12	Gerry Dacumos	7.207	8.406	8.661	8.598	7.306	8.067	7.948	8.367	7.600	72.158
13	Lester Abes	7.269	7.830	9.007	8.714	7.478	7.448	8.273	7.974	7.633	71.626
14	Corinne Blanco	7.601	7.808	8.392	8.725	7.539	7.501	7.41	7.759	7.313	70.049
15	Leys Masangcay	7.414	7.624	8.869	8.703	8.400	7.063	8.161	5.003	7.861	69.099
16	Billy Palatino	7.275	7.282	7.996	9.248	7.067	6.742	7.876	7.517	7.967	68.969
17	Kevin Lopez	7.731	8.050	8.516	8.820	8.446	7.061	7.704	4.609	7.240	68.176
18	Armi Yam	7.348	8.046	8.011	8.898	7.516	4.644	7.596	5.647	7.229	64.934
19	Efren Santos	6.833	7.247	7.622	8.136	7.022	6.852	7.659	4.535	7.501	63.408
20	Emmanuel Araullo		8.098	8.324	8.598	7.664	5.210	7.79	6.909	7.863	60.457
21	Jian Choa 2	7.041	7.053	8.213	8.448	7.156	3.000	7.431	3	8.239	59.580
22	Nico Ibaviosa		7.979	8.894	8.759	7.422	6.474	7.707	4.712	7.388	59.336
23	Henry Tan	7.556	7.531	7.693	8.575	0.000	6.500	8.202	5.521	7.239	58.818
24	Mike Lee	6.743	8.809	9.052	8.853	7.852	7.444	7.922	0	0.000	56.677
25	Nes Santiago	7.293			8.625	6.989	7.887	7.841	7.72	7.656	54.010
26	Pepito Reyes		8.028	7.942	8.225	7.497	7.092	7.832	0	7.292	53.908
27	Michael Olivares	6.654	7.916	9.311	8.525	0.000	6.673	7.31	0	7.169	53.558
28	Manny Devera	7.405	6.696	7.010		6.867	3.000	6.83	3	6.444	47.252
29	Arnel Macariola	6.849	7.606			0.000	3.000	7.32	4.652	0.000	29.427
30	Dodie Legaspi	7.211	8.818	8.169		0.000	0.000	0	0	0.000	24.198
31	Marlo Roxas	7.133	7.937	8.656		0.000	0.000	0	0	0.000	23.725
32	Cocoy Lopez						7.268	8.242	0	7.19	22.700
33	Tony Rivera	6.938	6.880		8.303	0.000	0.000	0	0	0.000	22.121
34	Jimmy Ngo	7.018				0.000	6.709	7.319	0	0.000	21.045
35	Christian Orlina		8.056		8.698	0.000	0.000	0	0	0.000	16.753
36	Boy Kaw					0.000	6.856	8.114	0	0.000	14.970
37	Butch Cruz		7.603			0.000	0.000	0	0	0.000	7.603

Exposure Five is the official newsletter of Zone V Camera Club.

This publication is produced by the 2021 ZVCC Communications Committee: Willie de Vera, Arlene Donaïre, Ris Orlina, Tony Rivera and Kevin Roi Lopez. Contributing writer: Mike Olivares. Adviser: Cynch Pagdilao.