



# The FLASH!

November 2014

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

[www.planophotographyclub.com](http://www.planophotographyclub.com)



## Best in Show: ~ Cool Jalapeno - By Don Champlin

I enjoy photographing liquids with High Speed Flash. The ability to capture moments that happen so fast that they can not be seen with the eye fascinates me, so this project was quite fun to do.

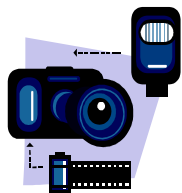
I started by setting up a large white diffusion panel in front of a tripod mounted camera and suspending the Jalapeno with fishing line between the two. This was lit with 3 flashes, one behind the diffusion panel gelled green and the other two front right and left fitted with strip boxes. After adjusting lights and getting the exposure and ratios where I liked the lights were covered in thin clear painters' plastic to protect them from splashing water. A 5' diameter inflatable children's swimming pool was paced under the target Jalapeno in order to collect the splashing water and keep it from flooding my garage.

One hand triggered the camera with a 5' cable release and the other hand was used to throw water onto the Jalapeno with a small bowl. I would scoop the water from a 5 gallon bucket and then with the bowl throw the water while triggering the camera and flash hoping to time it all correctly capturing something cool. 278 images were taken over 3 days starting with the initial testing using a water bottle and then advancing through a Jalapeno, Apple and Banana using various colors for backgrounds. Many misses were recorded but with persistence and patience the final result was successful. The selected image was then post processed in Lightroom and Photoshop tweaking contrast, color, clarity, sharpness and removing the fishing line and unattractive out of focus water drops.

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## Upcoming Club Activities

**November 24, 2014, 6:15 – *Snapshots!*** Lightroom Basics. Just about any photograph can be improved with some basic global adjustments such as cropping, color temperature, exposure, contrast, and saturation. Dennis Fritsche will demonstrate using the Lightroom Develop Module to make these global adjustments. And as an added bonus, Dennis will show how to use the local adjustment tools to emphasize your subject and de-emphasize problem area.

**December 6, 2014 – *Annual Holiday Party*.** See below for details.

We are planning a number of activities for next year including:

- Dallas Skyline and Hunt Bridge at night
- Rugby (Dallas Harlequins) - new season has already started and ends June
- John Bunker Sands Wetland
- Hagermann National Wildlife
- CTC Auto Ranch (vintage automobile salvage yard, just north of Denton)
- Fossil Rim/Glen Rose -optional overnight (late November or early December)
- Ft Worth Stock Show & Rodeo (Jan 16-Feb7)
- NTIF - March 6-8th at Fair Park
- DFW Auto Show- March 25-29 at Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention center (formerly, the Dallas Convention Center)
- Cedar Ridge Preserve, formerly the Dallas Nature Preserve

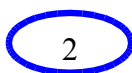
## Annual Holiday Party

Our Annual Holiday Party is Saturday, December 6, in our regular meeting room. Setup is 5:30 PM with dinner at 6. Please bring an appetizer, vegetable or dessert as well as a short slideshow on a Flash drive or CD. Sign up at the November meeting. The club will provide meat, drinks and utensils.

## Guest Speaker – 2013/2014 Photographer of the Year – Don Champlin

Don Champlin has been shooting for 35 years as a hobby. When he finally made the transition from film to digital his photographic understanding increased immensely. He joined the PPC two years ago and entered his first competition which pushed him to get better at creating images to grab the viewers' attention and to improve his technical abilities. Don sees photography as an enriching tool to increase awareness of the wondrous world in which we live.

Having placed in every single competition during the 2013-2014 Club year, including 3 Best of Shows, Don will share his approach to the making of various images and idea sources for his creative process. As one of the most successful Club members ever, he'll talk about some of the techniques he's employed to help create his winning images.

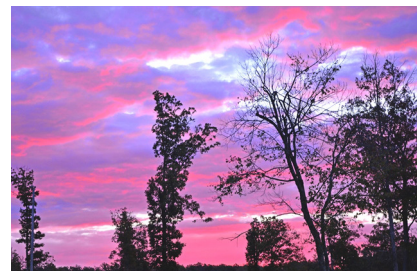


## PPC Arkansas Fall Foliage Trip



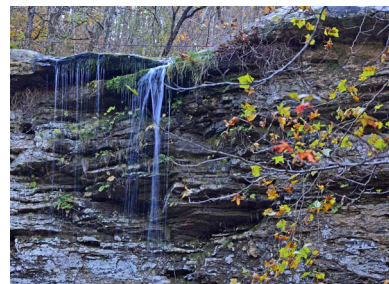
Club members had a wonderful trip to the the Buffalo River National Park in northwest Arkansas, October 31<sup>st</sup> through November 3<sup>rd</sup>, during the fall color change. This river is one of the few remaining rivers in the country that is not dammed. We were fortunate to have beautiful weather with picturesque frost one of the mornings and two colorful sun rises. Most members stayed at the Saddleback Lodge, a lovely

large residence with hunting and cabin-like décor with seven bedrooms. Others of the group stayed in lovely cabins, all in the vicinity of Ponca and Boxley Valley. After taking pictures all day we gathered back at the lodge in the evenings for delicious meals and a wonderful time discussing our adventures of the day. There were many areas to explore. The Boxley valley was great for taking pictures of old barns and structures.



Elk came into the meadows every day at 6:30 am and 6:30 pm, giving us the opportunity to photograph them. One of our more memorable hikes was to Hawksbill Crag, which is one of the most photographed natural rocks in Arkansas. It is a big rock that juts out from the mountain large enough to hold many people. There was a group actually camping on the crag with a campfire!

We were fortunate to have water running at Triple Falls (actually twin) to photograph, along with lush scenery in the area. We also visited Roark Bluff, which is a 220 foot tall rock bluff with the Buffalo River at it's base. The river was shallow allowing us to get down to the river floor. This was a good opportunity for us to shoot the rocks and reflection pictures. Another short hike took us along the scenic walk through Lost Valley where at the end in a cave is one of the tallest water falls in Arkansas. Several members challenged themselves by crawling through the cave. Other places stopped at by members were King's River Falls and Round Top Mountain Trail.



Janet Davenport

## Plano Centre Exhibition

*We* have an opportunity to exhibit in Plano Centre! This building hosts conferences, seminars, trade shows, and parties, so there is fairly good exposure of our artwork to a wide range of people. (And, you may post your contact information and price.) The exhibit runs through the holiday season.

*If* you have one to three photographs that are framed, with hanging hardware, please bring them to the November 24 Club meeting. See The News To Use for more information and please contact the coordinator, Valerie Johnson at [exhibits@planophotographyclub.com](mailto:exhibits@planophotographyclub.com).

*Installation* will be Monday, December 1. If you can not bring your photograph to the November meeting, you may bring it to the installation. We appreciate the submissions we received at the October meeting, and will carefully store the prints until they're transported to the Centre on December 1.



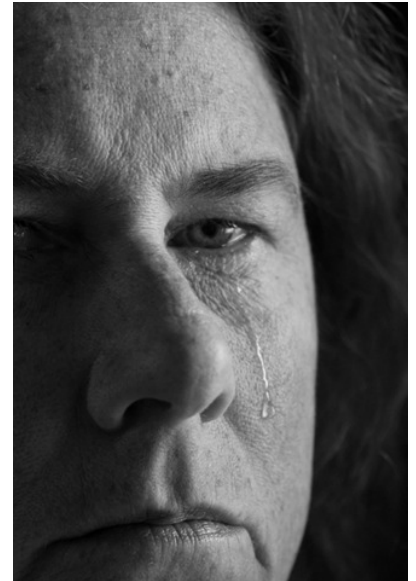


## September's Winning Images – Liquid

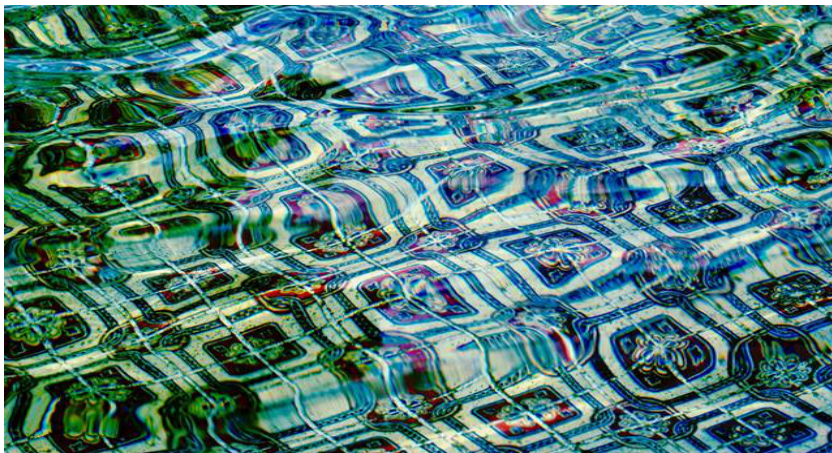
Masters				Advanced			
Danette Volkmer	Blanco River Rungs	1st	15	Don Champlin	Cool Jalapeno	1st, BoS	15
Russell McGuire	Raindrops Keep Falling	2nd	15	Jim Shannon	Making Waves	2nd	14
Dennis Fritsche	Surface Effect	3rd	15	Linfen Hwang	The Impact	3rd	13
Lee Hatfield	No Bull, Just A Splash!	HM	14	Bud Barlow	Elixir	HM	13
Marea Downey	Dancing drop collision	HM	13	Karen Chaney	Refreshing Glass of Clouds and Grass	HM	13
Intermediate				Beginners			
James Edward	Liquid metal in a sea of glass and concrete	1st	14	Jack Hwang	The Reflection	1st	14
Bryan Zumbar	Frozen Liquid	2nd	14	Joyce Mangum	Blue Water Tiles	2nd	12
Valerie Johnson	Stars are Born	3rd	14	Janet Davenport	Tears	3rd	11
James Berry	The Brew	HM	12	Aaron Leshar	Liquid Abstract	HM	11
Ron Lin	Renolds Gully	HM	12				



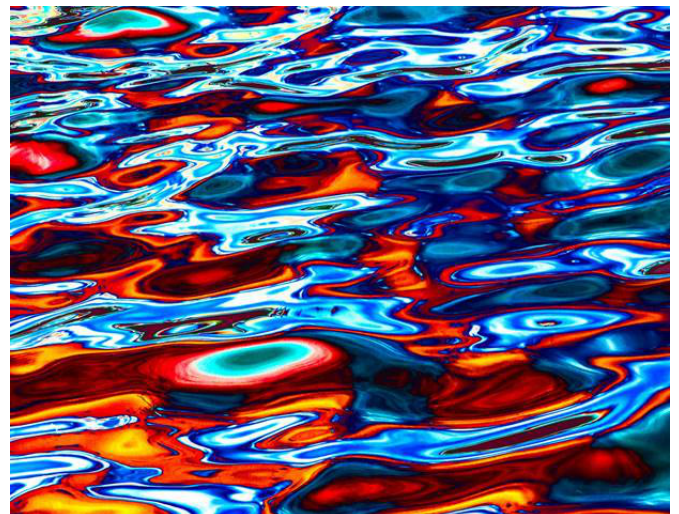
**Jack Hwang**



**Janet Davenport**



**Aaron Leshar**



**Joyce Mangum**



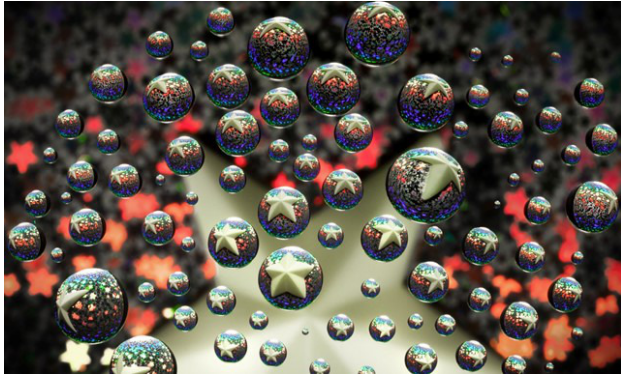




**James Edward**



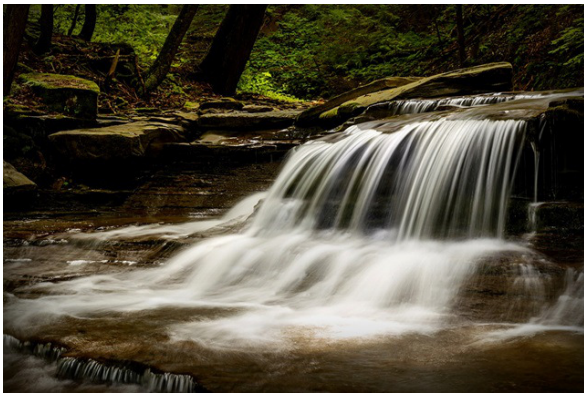
**Bryan Zumbar**



**Valerie Johnson**



**James Berry**



**Ron Lin**



**Linfen Hwang**



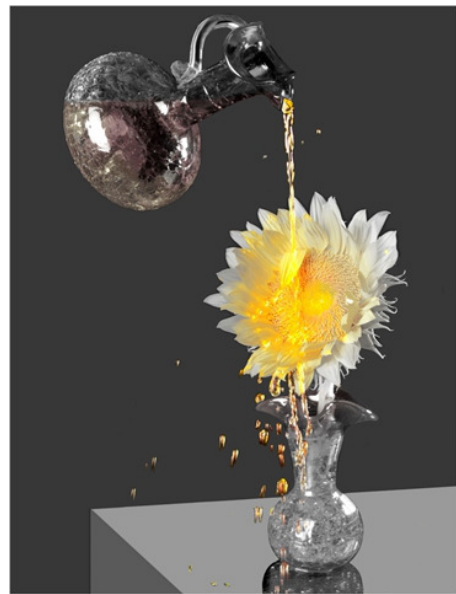
**Jim Shannon**







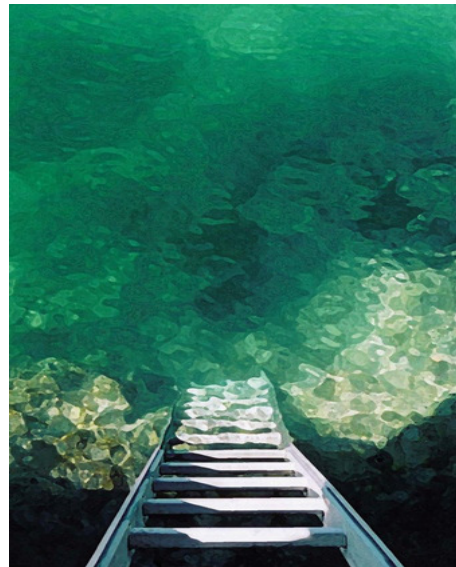
**Karen Chaney**



**Bud Barlow**



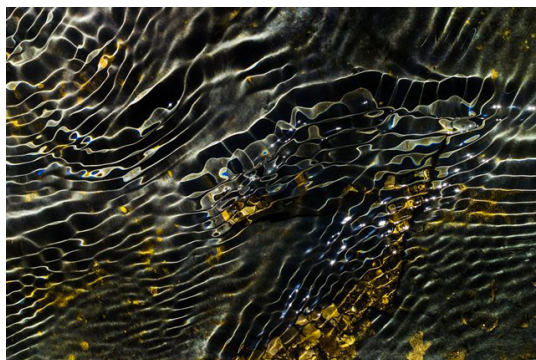
**Russell McGuire**



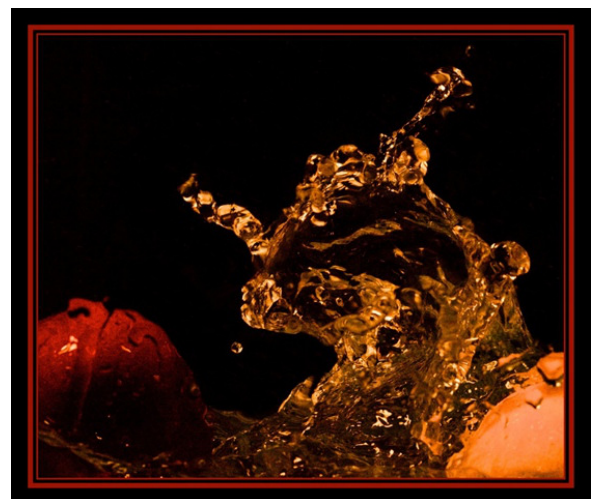
**Danette Volkmer**



**Marea Downey**



**Dennis Fritsche**



**Lee Hatfield**

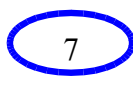


## Competition Topic

November	Negative Space	April	Vintage (Print)	July	Surprise Topic (TBD)	November	Abstract
December	No Competition	May	Open	August	Open	December	No Competition
January (2015)	Photojournalism	June	Entrances	September	Softness	January (2016)	Photojournalism
February	Open		Open	October	Open	February	Open

## Competition Standings

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
<b>Beginners</b>			<b>Advanced</b>		
Armstrong, Brenda	20	58	Champlin, Don	38	68
Warren, Lulu	20	55	Hwang, Linfen	12	59
Johnston, Leslie	6	48	Barlow, Bud	6	58
Hwang, Jack	20	28	Chaney, Karen	8	55
Davenport, Janet	6	41	Wilson, Sam	7	55
Conard, Debbie	7	39	Prestemon, Brian	11	46
Leshner, Aaron	8	35	Lightstone, Irwin	16	36
Lin, Cathy	0	38	Barlow, Carol	0	51
Mangum, Joyce	9	24	Spencer, Jim	0	51
Carroll, Vincent	1	27	Schlesinger, Jerry	0	50
Griffin, Lori	0	26	Shannon, Jim	7	38
Ratzlaff, Randy	1	21	Mallar, Bud	0	43
Chen, Kevin	3	13	Morton, Ken	0	38
Duggu, Krishna	0	7	Wilson, Aimee	0	20
<b>Intermediate</b>			<b>Masters</b>		
Edward, James	32	55	Fritsche, Dennis	16	68
Lin, Ron	24	63	Volkmer, Danette	14	67
Henkle, Charlie	16	62	Artiles, Jose	12	65
Zumbar, Bryan	7	54	Lehman, John	11	63
Johnson, Valerie	7	51	Petterborg, Larry	11	61
Berry, Jim	2	55	Hasty, Sharlott	10	60
Kenter, Wayne	1	52	Downey, Marea	7	61
Walsh, Jim	1	52	Grigsby, Linda	11	57
Yang, Ming	1	44	McGuire, Russell	7	60
DeRouen, Robin	7	35	Hatfield, Lee	1	60
Scaggs, Ronnie	0	39	Hasty, Ron	0	57
Goode, Jay	3	34	Hansen, Marie	3	52
Stiles, Parvin	0	36	Stover, James	0	51
Haynes, James	0	29	Carrick, Jennifer	0	49
Roldan, Oscar	3	24	Lehman, Lois	1	43
Maurer, Greg	0	19	Staxen, Peter	1	37
Sullivan, Joe	0	18			
Thweatt, Susan	0	13			
Henric, Brian	0	11			
Petermann, Steve	0	10			
Moulder, Retha	0	9			





**Photo By  
Marilia Clark**

## President's Message: Holiday Inspiration

*I*t is not yet Thanksgiving, but Christmas music and decorations are already inescapable. As I write this, Plano is even expecting snow overnight! I hope to see many of you at our annual Holiday Party on December 6th, but after that it will be a long seven weeks before we are together again. So, let me take this opportunity to wish you a very joyful holiday season, filled with family and friends, laughter and good food, and perhaps even a new camera or lens in your Christmas stocking.

*I*would also encourage you to turn your thoughts to those less fortunate during this season. Although many of us may not consider ourselves wealthy, participation in a photography club is evidence of a level of disposable income and leisure time that many others do not enjoy. So I hope you will find a way to reach out – to give a gift, to share a meal, to bring joy, to be a blessing. You may have a chance to put to use some of the photography skills you have learned here in the club, perhaps by volunteering to photograph an event or make portraits at a church or for a community organization.

"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night!"

- Sam Wilson

### **Plano Photography Club Officers**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
President	Sam Wilson	<a href="mailto:ppc@planophotographyclub.com">ppc@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Programs	Bud Barlow	<a href="mailto:programs@planophotographyclub.com">programs@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Activities	Parvin Stiles	<a href="mailto:activity@planophotographyclub.com">activity@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Secretary / Membership	Robin DeRouen	<a href="mailto:membership@planophotographyclub.com">membership@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Treasurer	Peter Staxen	<a href="mailto:treasurer@planophotographyclub.com">treasurer@planophotographyclub.com</a>
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Contest Site Admin	Jerry Schlesinger	<a href="mailto:contestsiteadmin@planophotographyclub.com">contestsiteadmin@planophotographyclub.com</a>
GSCCC Representative	Danette Volkmer	<a href="mailto:gsccl-rep@planophotographyclub.com">gsccl-rep@planophotographyclub.com</a>
PSA Representative	Jen Carrick	<a href="mailto:psa-rep@planophotographyclub.com">psa-rep@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Historian	Cindy Vaillancourt	<a href="mailto:historian@planophotographyclub.com">historian@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Light Rental	Don Pool	<a href="mailto:lightrental@planophotographyclub.com">lightrental@planophotographyclub.com</a>
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Exhibits	Valerie Johnson	<a href="mailto:exhibits@planophotographyclub.com">exhibits@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Model Shoot Coordinator		<a href="mailto:modeling@planophotographyclub.com">modeling@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Calibration Equip	Sherri Kidner	<a href="mailto:calibrate@planophotographyclub.com">calibrate@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Tabletop Equipment	Cindy Vaillancourt	<a href="mailto:table_top@planophotographyclub.com">table_top@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Slideshows	Lois Lehman, Ronnie Scaggs,	<a href="mailto:clubphotos@planophotographyclub.com">clubphotos@planophotographyclub.com</a>
Training	Bud Mallar / Don Champlin	<a href="mailto:training@planophotographyclub.com">training@planophotographyclub.com</a>

### **About The Club**

The club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month (no meeting in December) at Grace Presbyterian Church, 4300 West Park Blvd in Plano. Visitors are welcome! Officers meet at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month (except December) at the church. Open to all members.

The club is a member of: *Gulf States Camera Club Council (GSCCC) & Photographic Society of America (PSA)*

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[www.planophotographyclub.com](http://www.planophotographyclub.com)



**JAMES T STOVER**

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**EDITOR**

