



The FLASH!

January 2015

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



New Location for January Meeting!

Our January meeting will be held in the Program Room at Haggard Library, located at 2501 Coit Road, between Park and Parker in Plano TX. We are currently looking for a new permanent meeting location.

Best in Show: ~ *Spotlight Portrait* - By Don Champlin

This image came about when a friend, John Douglas, showed me a picture in The New Yorker Magazine of Al Pacino. It was a dramatic black and white portrait, I liked immediately and told him "we can do this". We made arrangements for a shoot in my garage studio the next weekend. I set up one light with an 8" reflector high and to the right with John sitting on a small stool and the camera on a stand. When I can I like the camera fixed so I can move around and change the setup and direct and keep the camera focused and the subject in frame. We shot for about 30 minutes making 84 frames each with a little different tweaked light angle, hand position, head tilt, camera height, distance and exposure until I was satisfied I had a good image to work with. I used a Canon 1DX mounted with the 70-200 II which is a fine portrait lens, this image was at 120mm.

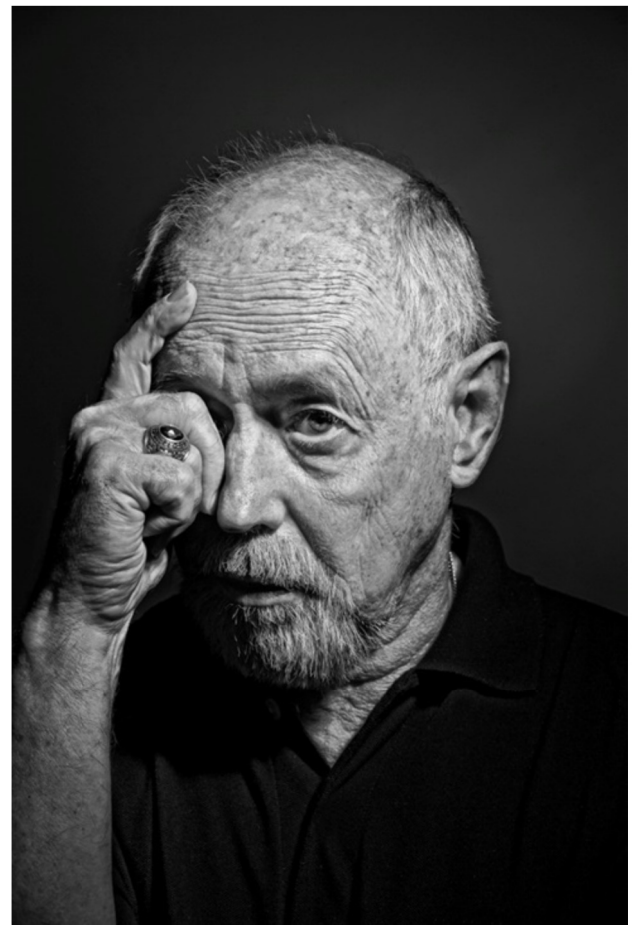
The image was first loaded into Lightroom for initial processing of contrast, sharpness and saturation. Then it was off to OnOne Perfect B&W for conversion to black & white using the Hollywood Bogart Neutral preset. It was then moved into Photoshop for some spot removal, local sharpening, burning and dodging, the eye area received considerable work and a button was removed from the shirt, lint cleaned up and a logo removed. Back to Lightroom. Two virtual copies were made, one with added 2 stops and one with minus 2 stops exposure. These were then combined with Photomatrix into an HDR image using pictorial settings just to increase the overall tonal range, nothing exotic or wild which can be done when making large adjustments, which create ghosts and "pixel loco behavior". Then it went back into Lightroom for some polishing touches and preparation to print.

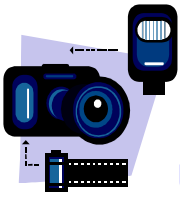
Used WHCC for printing and have them mount it on foam board for me, using their online service which is very convenient. A 3 day turn around with them and the print was taken to Art & Frame Expo for matting. He does outstanding work.

Selection of an image for a print competition is much more challenging than a digital presentation. Focus, DOF, tones and saturation must all come together along with of course a good composition. Very little room for error in a successful print.

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Upcoming Club Activities

March 28-29, 2015 – Caddo Lake. See below for details.

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

- LightRoom and Photoshop workshops
- Dallas Skyline and Hunt Bridge at night
- Rugby (Dallas Harlequins) - new season has already started and ends June
- 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)
- North Texas Irish Festival - March 6-8th at Fair Park
- DFW Auto Show- March 25-29 at Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center (formerly, the Dallas Convention Center)
- Dallas Arboretum April 10 & 11
- Horse Racing thoroughbred season at Lone Star Park
- Dallas Zoo Scavenger Hunt
- Roughriders Baseball
- Plano Balloon Festival September 18 – 20
- Hagerman Wildlife Refuge November 21

Guest Speaker – *Dallas Down Low* – Diana Souza

When art and awareness are the centrifugal force of attention – and a camera is bearing witness – expect enchantment and oddities to arise in equal proportion. Diana Souza offers us a glimpse of an artist's life seen from behind the camera lens. Her repertoire as a visual communicator has revolved around a lifelong career in graphic design and illustration – using a camera as one of her primary creative tools to communicate, elucidate and illuminate both public and private perspectives.

Currently, she is an adjunct instructor at the Art Institute of Dallas, where she teaches design and photography with a special emphasis on non-profit branding and mass market publishing. She has worked as a leader and innovator on creative teams in New York, New Orleans and Dallas, and holds a BFA in Communications Arts from the University of North Texas and an MFA in Arts and Technology from the University of Texas.

Dallas is a city where developers rule and wealth leads a parade of bulldozers to sanitize the old with the new. Quirkiness, the patina of character and the aesthetic of decay are sacrificed in this stampede towards progress, and history gets erased in the homogenized invasion of modernity. Paradoxically, Dallas is a city that loves art, so its taste for glitz and glamour and its lack of appreciation for the inherent artfulness of everyday life seems oddly out of sync. *Dallas Down Low* is a collection of images that celebrate the creativity that spills outside the lines of Dallas' high profile facade. Visual artist and Dallas native Diana Souza offers evidence that the elements of design and the principles of formal composition can be found not just in high places, but in low ones too. *Dallas Down Low* testifies that stories of unexpected lyricism hide in the most humble places – even in Dallas.



Christmas Party

Our annual Holiday Party was held Saturday, December 6 in our regular meeting room. Members shared food while the club provided meat. After dinner, members shared slideshows of some of their favorite images. Unfortunately, this was our last party at this location, as Grace Presbyterian Church will no longer be able to host us because of growing commitments. Below are club members who attended.



Caddo Lake Trip March 28-29

The PPC is planning an over-night activity to the delightful Caddo Lake on March 28th and March 29th. Individuals may spend the night Saturday evening at local hotels. Please e-mail the activity committee at activity@planophotographyclub.com if you are interested. We will have a sign-up sheet at the meeting also. There is a maximum of 27 people able to attend, so we will take names in order as they come to us.

The trip will include boat rides on pontoon and motor boats at dusk on March 28th and dawn on March 29th with the company, Johnson Ranch (johnsonranch.net) in Uncertain, Texas. Price is \$50 on the evening of March 28th and/or \$50 on the morning of March 29th per person for the boat ride (plus possible tax). A little extra money will be needed for a tip for the guide. Accommodations will be obtained by attendees on their own. We will be getting together for lunch on Saturday for a get-together too.

Plano Centre Exhibition

First, we want to share the great feedback from the coordinator at Plano Center: "I have heard nothing but great remarks about your exhibit. I think this is the best collection yet. Great Job!!!!" So, many thanks to the exhibitors and installation volunteers!

Second, we've been invited to extend our exhibit until Friday, January 23. We need a few volunteers to help take the exhibit down at 9:00 that morning. Please let exhibits@planophotographyclub.com know if you're able to help. It should take only an hour or so. Exhibitors will be able to pick up their prints at the January 26 meeting.



October's Winning Images – Open

Masters				Advanced			
Larry Petterborg	Yemini Girl	15	1st	Don Champlin	Spotlight Portrait	15	1st,BoS
Dennis Fritsche	Twin Peaks	15	2nd	Sam Wilson	Flock and Wool	13	2nd
Sharlott Hasty	Snow Monkey in the Snow	14	3rd	Jim Shannon	Fashion 1	11	3rd
Linda Grigsby	Sunset over Folegandros, Greece	12	HM	Jerry Schlesinger	Lisbon sunrise	10	HM
John Lehman	Nadia	12	HM	Bud Barlow	Scarved Woman	10	HM
Intermediate				Beginners			
Charlie Henkle	The Lady of Mateus	14	1st	Randy Ratzlaff	Simit Man	13	1st
James Edward	Golden Gate Bridge	13	2nd	Janet Davenport	Rambling Brook	11	2nd
Ming Yang	Sun Rise At Herbert Lake, Banff National Park	13	3rd	Brenda Armstrong	Autumn in Yosemite Valley	11	3rd
James Walsh	Hoodoos	12	HM				



Randy Ratzlaff



Brenda Armstrong



Charlie Henkle

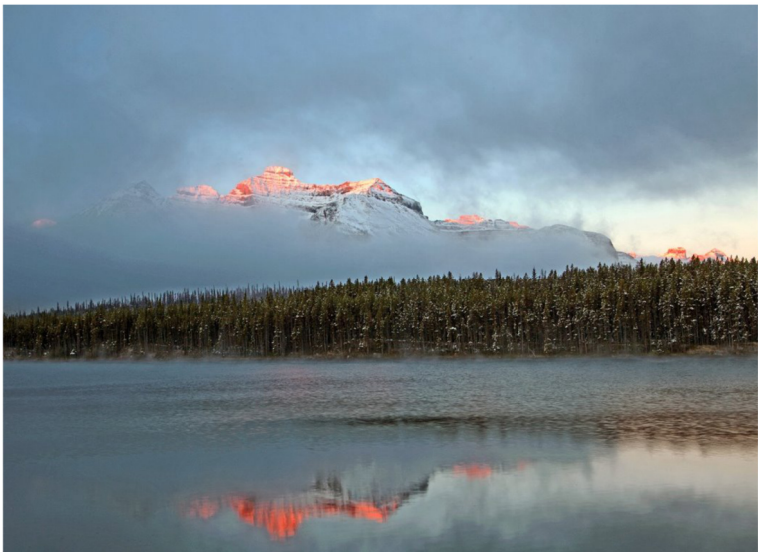


Janet Davenport





James Edward



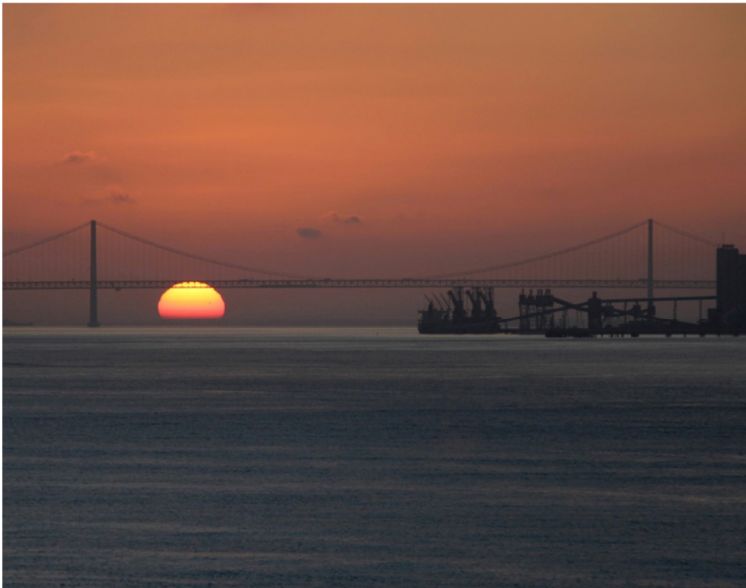
Ming Yang



James Walsh



Jim Shannon



Jerry Schlesinger



Sam Wilson





Bud Barlow



Larry Petterborg



Dennis Fritsche



Sharlott Hasty



Linda Grigsby



John Lehman



Competition Topic

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

Competition Standings

Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points	Photographer	Cumulative Place Points	Cumulative Judges' Points
Beginners			Advanced		
Armstrong, Brenda	23	69	Champlin, Don	46	83
Warren, Lulu	20	65	Lightstone, Irwin	16	45
Hwang, Jack	20	28	Wilson, Sam	13	68
Davenport, Janet	12	52	Hwang, Linfen	12	59
Ratzlaff, Randy	11	34	Prestemon, Brian	11	46
Mangum, Joyce	9	32	Shannon, Jim	10	49
Leshner, Aaron	8	35	Chaney, Karen	8	55
Conard, Debbie	7	39	Barlow, Bud	7	68
Johnston, Leslie	6	48	Schlesinger, Jerry	1	60
Chen, Kevin	3	13	Barlow, Carol	0	60
Carroll, Vincent	1	27	Spencer, Jim	0	60
Lin, Cathy	0	38	Mallar, Bud	0	43
Griffin, Lori	0	37	Morton, Ken	0	38
Newman, Jerry	0	9	Wilson, Aimee	0	20
Duggu, Krishna	0	7			
Intermediate			Masters		
Edward, James	38	68	Fritsche, Dennis	22	83
Henkle, Charlie	26	76	Petterborg, Larry	21	76
Lin, Ron	24	63	Volkmer, Danette	14	78
Zumbar, Bryan	7	65	Hasty, Sharlott	13	74
Johnson, Valerie	7	51	Artiles, Jose	12	75
DeRouen, Robin	7	35	Lehman, John	11	75
Yang, Ming	4	57	Grigsby, Linda	11	69
Goode, Jay	3	34	Downey, Marea	7	73
Roldan, Oscar	3	24	McGuire, Russell	7	71
Berry, Jim	2	65	Hansen, Marie	3	62
Walsh, Jim	2	64	Hatfield, Lee	1	71
Kenter, Wayne	1	61	Lehman, Lois	1	53
Stiles, Parvin	0	46	Staxen, Peter	1	48
Scaggs, Ronnie	0	39	Hasty, Ron	0	68
Haynes, James	0	29	Stover, James	0	62
Maurer, Greg	0	19	Carrick, Jennifer	0	60
Moulder, Retha	0	19			
Sullivan, Joe	0	18			
Thweatt, Susan	0	13			
Henric, Brian	0	11			
Petermann, Steve	0	10			





**Photo By
Marilia Clark**

President's Message: *Winter Evenings*

Winter presents a number of challenges to the photographer, even here in Texas where it is seldom below freezing and there is a minimum of frozen precipitation. The early sunsets, frequent gray skies, and dormant vegetation all limit the opportunities to be out with your camera and to find something of interest to point it at. I find it all too easy to go through January or February without picking up my camera more than once or twice.

To make lemonade out of lemons, though, these long evenings make winter the perfect time to practice the Tabletop Photography techniques you learned at one of our workshops. In fact, you can even borrow some of the very equipment we use during our workshop, and work with it for a week or two at your own pace, without having to wait in line, or having to yield to another club member after just a few minutes.

Just send an email to Cindy Vaillancourt at table_top@planophotographyclub.com and ask her about checking out one of the stations. Spend some time practicing with it, and you may find you've produced a prize-winning photo for the next club contest!

- Sam Wilson

Plano Photography Club Officers

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Slideshows	Lois Lehman, Ronnie Scaggs,	clubphotos@planophotographyclub.com
Training	Bud Mallar / Don Champlin	training@planophotographyclub.com

About The Club

The club meets at 7 p.m. the fourth Monday of each month (no meeting in December) at Haggard Library in Plano. Visitors are welcome! Officers meet at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month (except December) at a location to be announced. 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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JAMES T STOVER

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EDITOR

