



The FLASH!

November 2015

Newsletter of the Plano (Texas) Photography Club

www.planophotographyclub.com



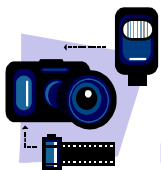
Best in Show: *Lines in the Sand* - By Don Champlin

This image was captured in West Texas at Monahan's Sand Dunes State Park at sunrise, just as the sun rays peaked above the dunes and skimmed the earth, revealing the textures and ripples in the sand. Getting up before sunrise, I found this ridge, set up the tripod, camera and a 24-70mm lens at 70mm, f/22 with a cable release attached to minimize vibration. I waited and watched in wonder as the light patterns changed and played across the sand and dunes. The light changes rapidly with the rising angle of harsh light rays so I took a picture every few seconds capturing the dynamic light hoping to get just the right texture in the image not knowing if the next one would be better or worse. Rich crimson light washed the scene illuminating the silence of the still morning dessert. Although the color was spectacular, this image works best in Black & White where the contrast is texture is better defined. I used DXO optics pro for sharpening and contrast adjustments, then sent the file to Photoshop where a corner of sky was cloned out and removed a !^(&* hair that was on the sensor. Several good images came from the adventure and I hope to get out there again to be rejuvenated by the passion of photography and exploration.

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Upcoming Club Activities

November 19 – Snapshot! James Stover - Night Photography in preparation for the Dallas Skyline shoot.

November 21 - Dallas Skyline Night Photography

December 6 – Holiday Party

April 2016 – Caddo Lake Overnight stay

October - November 2016 – Fall Color trip to Arkansas or Oklahoma - We are in the planning stages of a trip to see fall colors next year. An interest has been expressed on a return trip to the Buffalo River National Park in Arkansas in the latter part of October 2016. Or consideration is being given to Beaver's Bend State Park near Broken Bow, Oklahoma. Please e-mail activities@planophotographyclub.com with '2016 Fall Colors' in the subject line and let us know if you are interested.

Other activities which may be planned through this year include:

- Plano Profile's "Spirit of Plano" photo contest: <http://planoprofile.com/2015/09/23/plano-profiles-first-spirit-of-plano-photo-contest/>
- Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary, McKinney
- Fort Worth Water Gardens
- Fort Worth Stockyards <http://www.fortworthstockyards.org>

Dallas Skyline Night Photography

Join us on Saturday, November 21st for a fun evening of night-time photography of the Dallas Skyline and the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge. We will shoot from the west side of near or on the old pedestrian bridge next to the Margaret Hunt Hill bridge.

Parking is limited so you definitely want to get there before the dinner hour. The activity lead will plan to be parked by 4:30 pm. Sunset is at 5:23 pm but will set over the buildings a little earlier. It probably will not be pitch dark until 6:30 pm. Be sure to bring your tripod and a remote shutter release if you have one. Jim Stover will be covering night photography at a Snapshots! presentation at 6:15 pm preceding our November 19 club meeting.

After we have taken all the pictures we want, we will gather at the Amber Jax Fish Market Grille restaurant at 8:00 pm. The restaurant is located at the base of the bridge on the west side in a cluster of restaurants called Trinity Grove Restaurants.

Directions: Go down 75 and exit onto Woodall Rogers Freeway, Spur 366. Take this road straight and it will take you over the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge. Once over the bridge, you will be on Singleton Blvd. Immediately take a right at the bottom of the bridge onto Gulden Lane. Go down that short street and at the end you will see the turn-in to the right into the parking lot. If that lot is full, there also is a parking lot for restaurant guests immediately on the corner when you turn onto Gulden.

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 – 2014/2015 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 three 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 followed that up in the 2014-2015 Club year with 4 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.

Gulf States Camera Club Council Competition

The Plano Photography Club is a member of the Gulf States Camera Club Council (GSCCC). Every month the club submits images in three of the GSCCC Competitions. This year The PPC was second place in Photojournalism Projected Projected Images and third place in Pictorial Projected Images.

Individual club members won a number of awards in the 2014—2015 End of Year Competitions

Ron Hasty won first place in Nature Projected Images for *Sea Eagle Over The Ice Pack At Sunrise*.

James Stover won first place in Pictorial Projected Images for *The Portals of Nankoweap Ruins*.

John Lehman won third place in Photojournalism Projected Images for *The Blacksmith*.

James Walsh won first honorable mention in Photojournalism Projected Images for *The Fall of Number 5*.

Congratulations to all the winners.



August's Winning Images – Open

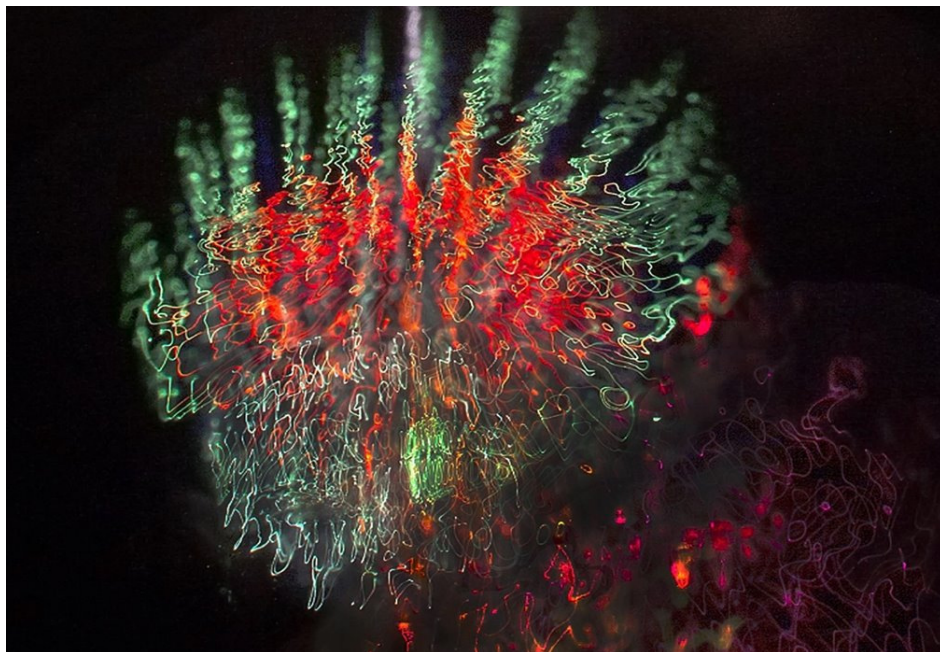
Masters				Advanced			
Don Champlin	Lines in the Sand	15	1st, BoS	Jim Spencer	Number 103	13	1st
Jose Artiles	Droplets on Blue	14	2nd	Carol Barlow	Contemplation	12	2nd
Sharlott Hasty	Fury of the Day	14	3rd	Linfen Hwang	Focus!	10	3rd
Larry Petterborg	Zebra	13	HM				
Intermediate				Beginners			
Valerie Johnson	Asphalt. Rain. Tree	14	1st	Leslie Johnston	Balconies	13	1st
Joyce Mangum	Drydocked	13	2nd	Jack Hwang	The Reflection of Celebration	12	2nd
Vincent Carroll	Early Pollock?	11	3rd	Randy Ratzlaff	Museum Window	11	3rd



**Leslie
Johnston**



**Randy
Ratzlaff**

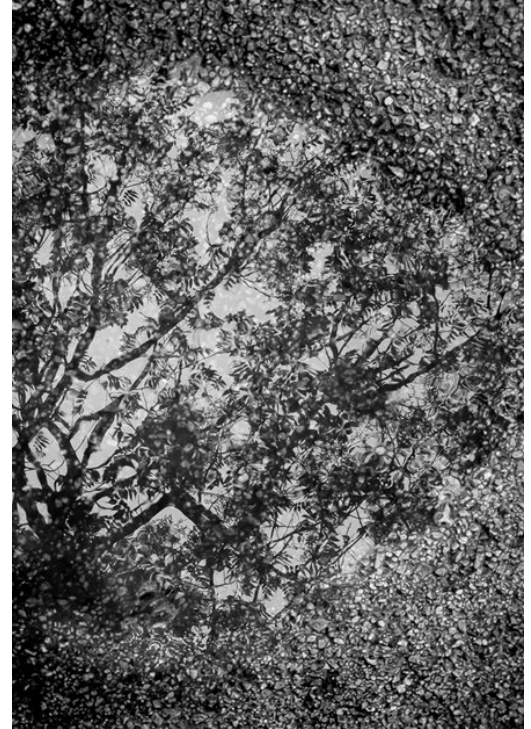


**Jack
Hwang**





**Joyce
Mangum**



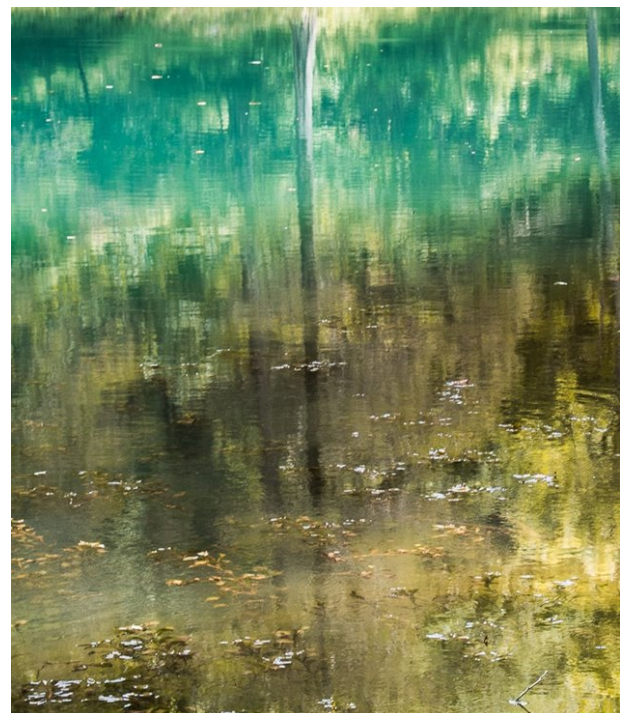
Valerie Johnson



**Vincent
Carroll**



Jim Spencer



Carol Barlow

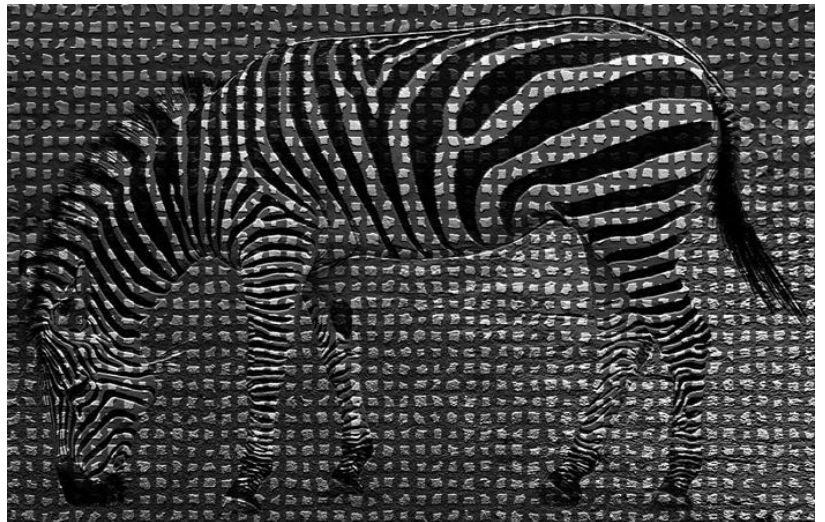




Jose Artiles



Linfen Hwang



Larry Petterborg



Sharlott Hasty



Competition Themes

November	Portrait of Character	March (Print)	Monochrome	July	Shallow Depth of Field	January (2017)	Photojournalism
December	No Competition	April	Open	August	Open	February	Open
January (2016)	Photojournalism	May	Repetition	September	Shadow Play	March (Print)	Decrepit, Ruined or Broken
February	Open	June	Open	October (Print)	Open	April	Open
				November	People (TBD)		

Competition Standings*

Photographer	Judge's Points	Place Points	Total Points	Photographer	Judge's Points	Place Points	Total Points
Beginners				Intermediate			
Johnston, Leslie	58	26	84	Yang, Ming	57	15	72
Mack, Nancy	59	22	81	Johnson, Valerie	62	20	82
Hwang, Jack	57	13	70	Mangum, Joyce	57	17	74
Lin, Cathy	47	10	57	Haynes, James	40	10	50
Armstrong, Brenda	43	11	54	Carroll, Vincent	48	4	52
Ratzlaff, Randy	39	6	45	Roldan, Oscar	32	6	38
Griffin, Lori	37	1	38	Blevins, Mary Jean	26	10	36
Barlow, Bruce	32	4	36	Warren, Lulu	41	4	45
Conard, Debbie	32	0	32	DeRouen, Robin	24	10	34
Quinn, Stephanie	14	6	20	Zumbar, Bryan	41	0	41
Srinivasan, Amita	13	0	13	Leshner, Aaron	39	3	42
Avellanet, Lois	12	0	12	Davenport, Janet	35	0	35
Dimmick, Russell	10	0	10	Sharp, Leo	27	0	27
Duggu, Krishna	8	0	8	Moulder, Retha	26	0	26
Farmer, Denny	7	0	7	Stiles, Parvin	22	1	23
				Flores, Jesse	30	0	30
				Singh, Kamalpreet	9	0	9
Advanced				Masters			
Barlow, Bud	62	22	84	Downey, Marea	66	23	89
Hwang, Linfen	61	18	79	Champlin, Don	58	17	75
Walsh, Jim	55	10	65	Lehman, John	61	14	75
Barlow, Carol	55	8	63	Hansen, Marie	60	14	74
Edward, James	47	13	60	Hasty, Sharlott	65	8	73
Henkle, Charlie	50	10	60	Petterborg, Larry	63	5	68
Spencer, Jim	46	10	56	Artiles, Jose	54	7	61
Lin, Ron	49	6	55	Fritsche, Dennis	55	6	61
Morton, Ken	46	1	47	Volkmer, Danette	57	1	58
Schlesinger, Jerry	45	0	45	Wilson, Sam	51	7	58
Shannon, Jim	14	3	17	Hasty, Ron	49	7	56
				Grigsby, Linda	55	0	55
				Staxen, Peter	54	0	54
				Carrick, Jennifer	49	0	49
				Stover, James	45	0	45
				Lehman, Lois	38	0	38

*** Annual 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards in each Class based on Total Points. Photographer of the Year is based on Judges' Points. Promotion based on Place Points.**





President's Message: *Too Many Photographs?*

A complaint you sometimes hear these days is that digital cameras remove any need to learn the craft of photography. With digital, you can snap a zillion photos and hope you find one or two good ones on your memory card when you are done. They go on to say you're spending all your time seeing life through a viewfinder rather than truly experiencing it.

There is certainly some truth to the criticism. But, you don't have to let it get in your way. The criticism is only valid if you fail to spend any effort working out what it is that makes those one or two shots good ones, and don't try to duplicate the success. When you do spend that effort, you'll find that sooner or later you get 5 or 6 good shots instead of 1 or 2. Keep working on it, and you may get a dozen the next time. Eventually, you reach a point where you can be confident that many if not most of your shots are going to be worth keeping. Then, you can cut down on the number of shutter snaps, take the shots you want, and spend a little more time out from behind your viewfinder.

- Sam Wilson

Plano Photography Club Officers & Volunteers

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Training	Bud Mallar / Don Champlin	training@planophotographyclub.com

About The Club

The club meets at 7 PM the third Thursday of each month (no meeting in December) at West Plano Presbyterian Church 2709 Custer Road, Plano TX. Visitors are welcome! Officers meet at 7 PM on the first Thursday of each month (except December) at our regular meeting location. 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

