

DOÑA ANA CAMERA CLUB DEVELOPMENTS

Since 1955

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December Dinner

The annual Dutch Treat Christmas Dinner on December 14th was enjoyed by all who attended. Some folks even expressed that they have found a new favorite restaurant after the experience. Paisano Café, at 1740 Calle de Mercado in Mesilla, provided an exclusive night out for club members, friends and family. There were door prizes for everyone so the season of gift giving (or getting) was enjoyed although Santa Clause didn't make his traditional appearance. Lack of enough snow to land his sleigh and eight tiny reindeer along with no chimney contributed to the factors surrounding his absence,

Another high light of the evening was a photo presentation on the three large televisions located throughout the restaurant. President Ron Wolfe created a power point presentation of various images from the Photo of the Year competition as well as several other photos. Fred Moore, the clubs Vice President, provided informational handouts on photography and printing as well as two CDs of pictures from throughout the year. Those CDs are available for a \$5.00 donation to the club. Fred can be contacted at fred@famcom.net or make arrangements with him at the meeting on January 18th.

In the column to the right are some of the pictures of the activity taken by Jerry Claessen, the clubs Secretary/Treasurer...



In this issue:

December Dinner	1
Mission Statement	1
How to get a "Tack Sharp" picture	2
Viewpoint from Ron Wolfe, club president	2

Special thanks to these businesses who contributed to prizes:

- Picture Frame Factory Outlet
- The Preston Gallery
- Big Picture Digital Image Lab
- Red River Paper Co.
- Staples Office Super Store
- Mesilla Digital Imaging Workshops
- Walters Camera Repair & Sales
- Frame and Art Center

Mission Statement

Since this is the second edition of *Developments* and the first issue in the new year at the beginning of a new decade it is very fitting to put forth a mission statement for the newsletter. It will give direction and set the standard for following issues. To put it another way: A mission statement will keep the

newsletter in focus (but that would be a play on words). Like any good macro photo, it will also give a depth of field so that some topics that might be of interest and within the scope or frame will not be clearly fitting to include as an article. There is another image taken from photography that will

illustrate an important point... a DSL camera worth its value can change lenses. If the need arise, so can the mission statement. So here it is: The Dona Ana Camera Club newsletter, *Developments*, is to report club activities, inform members of future events, and to educate about photography.

DONA ANA CAMERA CLUB DEVELOPMENTS

Page 2

How to get a "tack sharp" picture



More Pictures from December Dinner
by Pat and Mary Lou Pendergrass



It's happened to every person who has ever taken a picture... a beautiful shoot out of focus. Most people who take pictures are not concerned about how clear the image is because photography is a fun past time. But for those who have crossed the line into the realm of obsession (well, that might be a bit too strong of a word) serious photography getting a "tack sharp" photo is important. Some folks are as steady as a surgeon but if not then the answer is a tripod or at least a monopod. The point and shoot cameras are designed for a tripod and for good reason. To get a sharp professional image the tripod is a must. The most expensive camera and the best composition is worth nothing if the image is fuzzy because of movement. A tripod is to keep the camera

still. Manufacturers have developed motion dampening technology but nothing is as effective as a tripod. To further assure no camera movement when taking a picture use the built in self timer for a hands free snap. For those who are truly obsessed enable the Mirror Lockup or Exposure Delay Mode in a DSL. Translucent Mirror technology that allows the image to pass through the mirror onto the image sensor is now available eliminating this movement. If a sharp image is the goal then having a tripod is one piece of equipment that is relatively inexpensive in relation to the results. When a photo opt suddenly presents itself and there is no time to set up a tripod use something stationary (a rock, fence post, hood of a car) to stabilize the camera.

Viewpoint from Ron Wolfe

DACC President

Now that the holiday season is behind us, we are busy preparing for the 2011 Camera Club meetings.

Topics planned for the first couple of months of 2011 include: *The Colors of Ecuador*, *Improving Landscape Photos*, *Improving Your Photos Workshop using Elements*, *Paris 1926 Video*, ...

We have openings for many other topics during the remainder of the year. Guest speakers, prepared topics, slide shows, ... can be very interesting and worthwhile. Your suggestions

and active participation will go a long way to making the club meaningful for all attendees.

Topics with the theme "How to Photograph ..." can be prepared and presented including: photo taking techniques, image editing with Photoshop or Photoshop Elements, etc.

Please remember this is a club, and a club is "a group or association of people with common aims or interests." Club officers are only in place to facilitate, you make the club successful with your active participation - suggestions, planning, facilitating, attending, presenting, etc