

WHAT'S UP FOR THE MAY MEETING

Come and join us as DACC Member, Nirmala Khandan, PhD, PE presents a Sri Lanka Travelogue. Dr. Khandan will present slides from a recent trip home to Sri Lanka, in which he will share his technique for getting some images inside a 1,000 year old Buddhist cave monastery using a combination of slow-sync flash and HDR to get some great images. He was interested in capturing some images of the vibrant statues and paintings within the cave monastery. Along with these photos he will share other images of wildlife he photographed while home.

Dr. Khandan is a professor in the Civil Engineering department at New Mexico State University who enjoys photography as a hobby and we are pleased to have him come and share some of his work with us on May 17 at our monthly DACC meeting.

Following Dr. Khandan's presentation we will have a presentation on Panorama Photography presented by veteran Mesilla Valley photographer Mike Groves. We will also present the "Monthly Photo Theme" presentation from April – Blue and Yellow, and for May – Light Painting. Come and see what your fellow photographers have been photographing and be inspired to photograph more yourself.

We will also conduct our usual club business and will have more information available for the upcoming Southwest Photo Symposium. At the end of each regular monthly meeting we will have a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate, so be sure to be at the meeting.

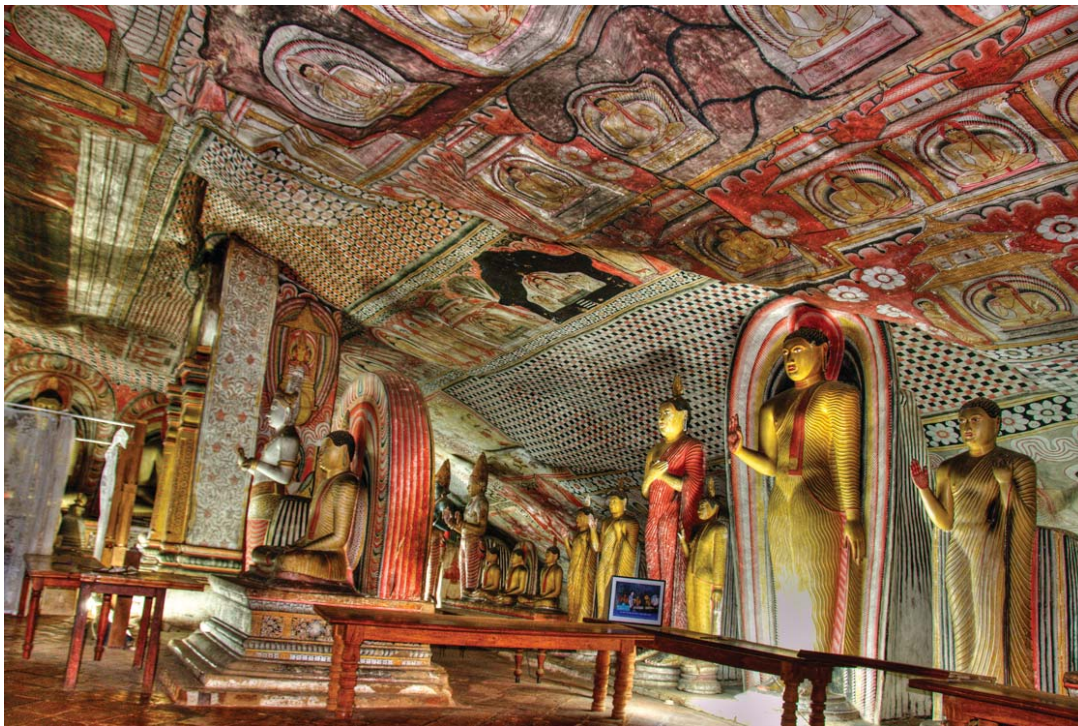


Photo by Nirmala Khandan

JERRY CLAESSEN HONORED

When Jerry accepted the job of Secretary/Treasurer of the Doña Ana Camera Club in 1966, he never dreamed it would become a semi-permanent position, and now after 45 years of service to DACC Jerry has finally decided to step down and give someone else the opportunity to serve. At the April meeting DACC presented Jerry with a certificate of appreciation for his long time service to DACC. Now maybe he will have some time to go out and photograph.

Thank you Jerry for your hard work and all that you have done for DACC. We will see you at future meetings and look forward to seeing your photographs.

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Upcoming Events: Mark your Calendar

Saturday, 05-07-2011 - Otero Mesa Photo Field Trip, for more information see article on page 2. The Southwest Environmental Center will also host the DACC for another Photo Field Trip to Otero Mesa this fall. DACC members will be invited to display their photos from these two trips at a gallery presentation at the Southwest Environment Center, more information to come.

Tuesday, 05-17-2011 - 7:00pm Dona Ana Camera Club May Meeting (see this page) at Southwest Environmental Center.

Tuesday, 05-24-2011 - 7:00pm May Informal Photo Clinic, this is an informal meeting for members and guests to bring in specific questions and ask for help about photography, printing or photo editing, at Southwest Environmental Center.

Saturday, 07-23-2011 - Southwest Photo Symposium - Preston Contemporary Art Center, a full day of photography seminars and workshops space is limited check the website for information on registration and the complete schedule of the day's activities.

OTERO MESA PHOTO

FIELD TRIP

BY FRED MOORE

The Southwest Environmental Center (SWEC) will provide transportation for Camera Club Members to the Otero Mesa on Saturday, May 7. Contact Fred Moore at fred@famcom.net if you would like to go, space is limited but if you act fast there may still be a place for you.

The SWEC will rent vehicles and lead trips to the Mesa on Saturdays May 7 and September 10. Members may display their photos in a show during October at the SWEC. Prizes will be given. All they ask is the use of selected images to help with their work to protect Otero Mesa. You will retain ownership and be given full credit for any images used.

Trip details: The area is located about 40 miles NE of El Paso and straddles the Texas border. We will leave from the SWEC at 1pm, will be at the Mesa from late afternoon until sunset, and return that evening. You may also drive or carpool, but most of the roads into the Mesa are dirt and unimproved, so an SUV would be best. Make sure your spare tire is filled! Travel time from Las Cruces is 2-3 hours. There are no facilities nearby, so bring everything you might need—appropriate clothing, a hat, sturdy footwear, food & water. The Club will provide some coolers with ice. We'll stop at the first sign of civilization on the way home.

Why it's important: New Mexico's Otero Mesa is the largest and wildest Chihuahuan Desert grassland left on public lands in America. At over 1.2 million acres in size, the area is home to 1,000 native wildlife species, including mule deer, mountain lion, black-tailed prairie dogs, golden and bald eagles, over 200 species of migratory songbirds, and boasts the state's healthiest and only genetically pure herd of pronghorn antelope (which you will probably see.) About half is intact desert grasslands—one of the most endangered ecosystems in the US—which sits atop an untapped aquifer with enough water to serve 1 million people for 100 years. Proposed oil & gas development could



April Photo Theme "Blue & Yellow" Photo by Ben Tyson

damage much of this fragile habitat and contaminate the water source. You can learn more about Otero Mesa here: <http://www.oteromesa.org/>.

The SWEC asks our help to photograph one of the most beautiful places in New Mexico to help them communicate the need to protect the Mesa to the public.

LIGHT PAINTING

MONTHLY PHOTO THEME

BY BEN TYSON

Ask not what your camera can do for you but rather, what you can do with your camera. You can do more than you think with your camera. Just because the sun goes down does not mean you have to stop taking pictures. There are a multitude of opportunities awaiting those who aren't afraid of the dark.

"Light painting" is one of those techniques which allows you to photograph things in the absence of sunlight by providing your own light source. It can be a lamp, the headlights of your car, a flashlight, a match, a campfire or a hundred other light sources too numerous to mention. All you need is a little imagination, a tripod and a camera. Since you are a member of the camera club it is probably safe to assume that you have at least two of the above mentioned requirements.

"Light painting" will allow you to photograph things in a different light, literally. You can change the way your subject appears by changing the lighting. Cast shadows to provide a sinister look. Emphasize certain aspects of your subject while de-emphasizing others. Isolate an object from its surroundings. The possibilities are endless.

It will be very interesting to see the different approaches to using this technique so please get motivated and get out, in the dark, and do some painting with light and share it with the rest of us. We are anxiously awaiting your photographs at our next meeting.

This is not a contest, simply a show and tell. As usual we will show the photographs submitted at the meeting as a slide presentation and no prizes will be awarded. The monthly theme is a way to get you camera enthusiasts to try interesting and different things with your camera. I have had my camera for a year and am still learning how to use all of its features. I have found the best way to learn is to use the camera and try different things. "Light painting" is one of those new things to try and it is much easier than you might think. We are looking forward to seeing your contribution.

Please submit your photos to Ben Tyson no later than May 12th, you may submit as many photographs as you like but please make sure that you submit JPEG format no larger than 1mb. Email all submissions to benptyson@yahoo.com no later than May 12th if you would like them included in the presentation.

We will also be showing the submissions from last month's photo theme, "Blue and Yellow," and get those cameras ready for our next monthly photo theme.