

**“2011 HOLIDAY DINNER”
 DECEMBER MEETING**

As in past years the DACC will be enjoying a Holiday Dinner in lieu of its regular meeting in December. We will be meeting at the Furr’s Fresh Buffet at 2340 E. Griggs, Las Cruces NM (Phone: 647-9515) the cost of the dinner is \$8.69 plus tax per person. Do NOT pay for a beverage because drinks will be FREE if we have 30 persons (and we will).

Please arrive between 6:00 and 6:30pm to have enough time to mingle and have dinner before we begin the meeting. The meeting will begin about 7:15pm, we will do the slide show for the Photo Theme of the Month – Utilities (See page 3); we have a video featuring all the images from the Photo of the Year; some other announcements and again this year we will have a series of door prizes to give away. Thank you to all those who made donations of the door prizes -- they really add a lot to the meeting.

Directions: Furr’s Fresh Buffet is located at 2340 E. Griggs close to N. Triviz /I-25. For Las Cruces locals, it is north of Walmart and west of the Hampton Inn and the water tower at I-25. Take the Lohman exit off I-25 going west, Right onto E. Lohman, 1 block, Right onto Walton, 1 block, Right onto E. Griggs.

This should prove to be a very exciting and fun evening and I am looking forward to seeing everyone there. If you are planning on attending please e-mail me and let me know so we have some idea of how many to expect. You can e-mail me at robawil@gmail.com see you soon.

**Upcoming Events:
 Mark your Calendar**

Sunday, 12-18-2011 - Deadline to submit photos for the “Photo Theme” see page 3.

Tuesday, 12-20-2011 - DACC December Meeting and Holiday Dinner - 6:00pm Furr’s Family Dining, see Page 1.

Saturday, 1-7-2012 - DACC 2012 Planning Meeting -10:00am-2:00pm ASA Architects, see page 3.

Tuesday, 12-17-2012 - DACC January Meeting - 7:00pm Southwest Environment Center

2012 - “This Enchanted Land” Photo Exhibit at Branigan Cultural Center. More information to come.

**PHOTO OF THE
 YEAR**

BY FRED WILLIAMS

I was honored to be asked to judge the Dona Ana Camera Club annual competition for the second year in a row. As a result I can make a few comparisons between the entries this year and those of a year ago. There were more entries this year and the high quality of images made judging more difficult. Most difficult for me was trimming the numbers down to those that would receive red or blue ribbons. In most cases this resulted in elimination of good photographs only because there were many “better” photographs and often that was because of my bias for, or against, certain subjects. We laughed about last year my showing a bias against Organ Mountain landscape photographs (there were excellent ones). This year, even with my best efforts, I must again admit that my bias is still there, perhaps because it is so popular a subject.

As a judge, I believe I cannot say I do not like this photograph and throw it out- I feel I must explain whenever possible what might make it better, or try to understand why I do not like it. This year I judged images that were

Note

Please make a note that for December, the DACC 4th Tuesday Meeting Work Session will be canceled due to the upcoming holiday schedule. We will begin the Work Sessions again in January so please be on the look out for the official announcements.

If you have an article, photos or ideas you would like to contribute to the DACC newsletter please e-mail Robert at robawil@gmail.com any contributions are always welcome.



Photo of the Year/Blue Ribbon - Comfort by Stef Nelson.

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extremely good photograph of the subject. This included birds, flowers, architectural subjects, images from nature and people among others. Almost all were technically good (some showed amazing technical achievements). This year the best-in-show was an easier choice than last year because no other image combined all the parts of a good photograph as well. The winner had good technique; good art: light/shadows, textures, shapes and forms; and above all, a display of human emotions for us to see. How often do we get to see love? The photographer said a lot of this was chance, but she was prepared and experienced enough to trip the shutter at exactly the right moment.

What an enjoyable evening for me to see your photographs. I learned from your work and I hope you learned something from my comments. But remember this was one person's opinion. It is your opinion about your image that matters above all.

Over the next few months we will feature some of the winning photographs from the Photo of the Year so enjoy and we look forward to seeing your photos next year.



Blue Ribbon - Finalist, Mums by Pat Freeman.

**DOÑA ANA CAMERA CLUB
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2011
BY SUE SPENCE, SECRETARY**

Opening:

The monthly business meeting of the Doña Ana Camera Club (DACC) was called to order at approximately 7:10 P.M. on November 15, 2011 in the Southwest Environmental Center (SWEC) by Ron Wolfe, President.

Total Attendees: approximately 43 (consisting of members and non-members)

A. Presentations

1. The DACC Photo of the Year competition was held. A total of 96 entries were submitted by DACC members. Members were allowed to submit up to 3 photos that had been taken in the last 2 years. Fred D. Williams was the independent judge. While previewing all images he discussed the "open" class entries submitted. At that time, he selected images to move into the ribbon round. From there it was determined the winners for a red ribbon (second place) and a blue ribbon (first place). From the images receiving a blue ribbon the Photo of the Year was selected.

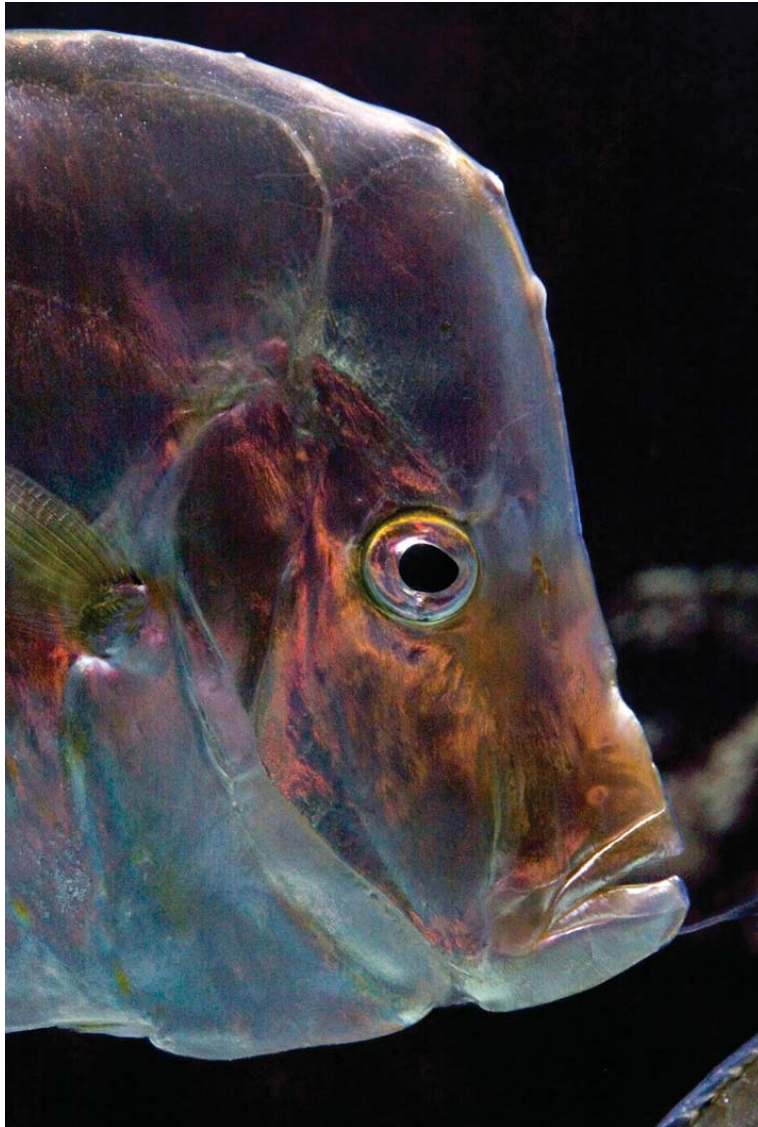
PHOTO OF THE YEAR: Stef Nelson

BLUE RIBBONS: Dave Brown; Alan Caudill (2); Nan Caudill (2), Will Keener; Kathy Logan; Fred Moore; Stef Nelson; Karen Siemsen; Pat Freeman; Ron Wolfe

RED RIBBONS: Debbie Hands; Sandy Katayanagi; Nirmal Khandan; Stef Nelson; Olivia Rios; Jim Rodgers; Gary Spencer; Karen Siemsen; Mollie Wallsteadt; Robert Williams; Ron Wolfe

B. New Business

1. Will Keener, member of the nominating committee along with Robert Williams and Gary Spencer, announced the elections for the DACC Board Members will be held at the DACC business meeting January 17, 2012.
2. Julie Schmitt reminded everyone of the 2011 Holiday Dinner being held on December 20th at Furr's Fresh Buffet; located at 2340 East Griggs Avenue. Dinner will be between 6-8:30 pm and the cost



Blue Ribbon - Finalist, Look down by Nan Caudill



is \$8.69 plus tax per person. Do not pay for beverages because drinks will be free if we have 30 persons, which we should. Also if you use the Furr's coupons that come in the mail, you could save \$2 each, up to 4 persons per coupon.

3. Photo theme for December will be "Utilities", this could include power lines, phones, fire hydrants, etc. These photos will be presented at the Holiday Dinner.

4. Due to the holidays, there will not be a camera club (DACC) workshop meeting Tuesday, November 22, 2011 or Tuesday, December 27, 2011.

C. Agenda for Next Meeting

List of items to be discussed at the next meeting will be forthcoming by e-mail.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned approximately 10:15 PM. The next business meeting will be at 7:00 PM on January 17, 2012 in the SWEC.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO

BY ROBERT WILLIAMS

It is the time of year that we generally say THANK YOU to those around us in need of recognition of some kind. As many of you already know the DACC is managed and run entirely by volunteers, members like you and me, who enjoy this club and are willing to give a little of their time to make it a better place for all. Without their hard work and all their efforts the DACC would not be what it is today, a very successful and fun camera club.

In keeping with the season I would like to say thank you to some of those who, on a regular basis, have given of their time this past year to bring you all the presentations and events we have all enjoyed. As the DACC grows, and I know we will, the need for more help and ideas becomes more important. Here are some of those people who need to be thanked if you see them please consider saying "thank you" to them for their work for DACC.



Blue Ribbon - Finalist, Valles Caldera Flowers by Ron Wolfe



Blue Ribbon - Finalist, Flower 3 by Karen Siemsen

“UTILITIES” DECEMBER THEME

BY BEN TYSON

The photo theme for next month (December) will be "Utilities" I know this does not seem to be very exciting but it depends on how you look at it. Personally, I find those really large power poles (or towers) really interesting and they are very cool to photograph when you can get in close to them. You know everyone is always trying to crop out the power lines from their nice pristine wide angle landscape shots, so why not make them the feature of the image, could be interesting.

Just in case you need a clear idea of what constitutes a Utility Webster says: "a service (as light, power, or water) provided by a public utility (2) : equipment or a piece of equipment to provide such service or a comparable service ". Let your imagination go wild and be sure to send me your work by December 18th. We will present the photos from this theme at the December Meeting and Holiday Dinner on Tuesday, December 20th.

Submissions should be in JPG format and no larger than 1mb
E-mail photos to Ben Tyson at benptyson@yahoo.com.

To start out I would like to thank the officers of this club; Ron Wolfe – President, Fred Moore – Vice-President, Jim Rodgers – Treasurer and Sue Spence – Secretary. Ron and Fred have been tireless this past year in their efforts to find presentations and speakers that would be of interest to all. When the need arises they have also made themselves available to share their knowledge and experience with all of us. Jim and Sue stepped up early this year to take on their positions and they have done wonderful work keeping us informed and financially stable.

For some time now Mary Lou and Pat Pendergrass have taken on the responsibility of our website creating and maintaining our presence in cyber space, they have done a wonderful job and I am always able to find what I need when I go there. Mary Lou has also taken on the task of creating the "Great Places to Take Pictures" lecture each year, and it is one of my favorite events. Will Keener has done such a wonderful job this year with Public Relations that it seems almost all our events are getting some publicity. From the symposium this past summer to the Photo of the Year event it seems we are getting noticed in our community more and more. Ben Tyson has done a wonderful job this year with the Monthly Photo Theme taking all your images and putting them together for the slide show at each meeting. Gary Spencer is

responsible for the cookies and cold drinks at each of the meetings; they would not be the same without those little snacks midway through. And let's not forget about Julie Schmitt who steps up each year and organizes the Holliday Dinner making all the arrangements and making sure everything runs smoothly.

As always happens when you say thank you to people there are people who are inadvertently left out, so please forgive me if I forgot to mention someone. And, let's not forget to say thank you to all of YOU, our members, if it were not for you we would not exist. This organization exists because our members find some value in it, and each month they show up to learn something new, make new friends and enjoy the excitement that are the DACC meetings.

At our January meeting on Tuesday, January 17th we will elect our officers for 2012; we will have more information coming on this soon. We will also announce some changes to the structure of the DACC and will introduce some new committees to help our leaders to manage the organization. As is always the case with growing organizations we are in need of help, we need our members to step up and assist with the direction that the meetings and events go over the next year, so we are asking you to please consider giving a little of your spare time and help us out.

In an effort to get a jump start to the next year we have decided to host a Planning Meeting to begin to form our committees and to come up with ideas for meeting and events over the next year. This will be an open forum discussion that will look at meeting topics, training events, photo field trips, symposium, photo themes, competitions, exhibits and more. We will be holding the meeting on Saturday, January 7, 2012 from 10:00am-2:00pm at the offices of ASA Architects in Las Cruces. We would like to invite any of you who would like to come for all or part of the meeting to participate, we need ideas and we need help. If you are considering coming please contact me at robawil@gmail.com or (505)270-5857 and I will see that you get directions and information as it becomes available. We will use the information gained at this meeting to plan what we do over the next year and we hope you will consider helping out and attending the meeting.

PEEP COMPETITION AND EXHIBIT, EL PASO

BY ROBERT WILLIAMS

PEEP is one of the three camera clubs in El Paso, TX and they are planning a photography exhibit and competition to take place at the El Paso Public Library at 501 N. Oregon, March 2-30, 2012. PEEP is opening this event to photographers in the region and they would love to have some submissions from DACC. There are four categories for submissions; scenic, still life, digital art/people and black & white. There is a fee of \$20 that allows up to three submissions and there are requirements regarding framing and matting of the work. The deadline to submit is January 31, 2012. We will have copies of the rules and guidelines at the next meeting, if you would like more information please contact me robawil@gmail.com and I will see that you get the information.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

BY ROBERT WILLIAMS

Over the past year DACC has been lucky enough to have received support from some businesses who have been willing to offer our members discounts and have stepped up and offered some gift certificates and prizes to be awarded at the Symposium this past summer, our meetings during the year and at our annual holiday dinner. DACC would like to say thank you to *Red River Paper* and *Big Picture Digital Imaging Lab* in Las Cruces.

Big Picture Digital Imaging Lab has a special offer they would like to make all of you aware of:

- 20% off canvas prints up to 20x30 and 2 for one 16x20 photo prints. Offers include one proof. Image manipulation and enhancement might be extra depending on what effort is required. Additional proofs are \$10 each (for a limited time).

Big Picture Digital Imaging Lab is located at 311 N. Downtown Mall, on the corner of Las Cruces and Main Street (575) 647-0508.



Blue Ribbon - Finalist, Balloon Crew Silhouette by Dave Brown.

BIG PICTURE
DIGITAL IMAGE LAB

Red River Paper can be reached via the internet at:

www.redrivercatalog.com

or by phone at 888-248-8774 and are always willing to help out an support the DACC.

Since 1997
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We are grateful for these businesses support of the DACC and we encourage our members to support them and consider them when looking for photographic services and supplies over the next year.