



# Doña Ana Photography Club

September 2017

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DAPhotoClub.org

## State Fair Photo Contest Deadline Approaching

It's that time of year again! The Southern New Mexico State Fair countdown is under way with the action scheduled to start Sept. 27 and run through Oct. 1.

"We always encourage participation from members of the Doña Ana Photography Club," says Greg Groves, owner of The Picture Frame Factory Outlet and superintendent for the fair photo contest. "The fair contest provides an opportunity to see what other area photographers are doing and get feedback from some outstanding photographer/judges."

"The fair photo competition is a fun and relatively low-cost way to have some of your work judged and perhaps get

rewarded financially," says Will Keener, a perennial state fair contest entrant. "I look forward to going out to the fair, seeing everybody's work, and poking around in the other exhibits," Will says.

It's time to be thinking about your entries, which are due Sept. 23. Your first entry will cost you \$3, with each additional entry just \$1. The contest has rules about minimum and maximum sizes for the contest and encourages matted photos, protected by shrink wrap. You can do the matting and wrapping yourself, or any local frame shop can help you. No framed photos or canvas wraps are allowed.

For more info, check out the details here.



Steve Eberlein's capture of early morning viewers at the White Sands Hot Air Balloon Rally earned him a ribbon in the People category in last year's competition.

Some hints for first time entrants include:

- Make sure your pictures are sharp and free of dust spots, wrinkles, and especially date stamps.
- Judges encourage photos with lots of detail to be printed in sizes larger than the minimum and they weigh the larger images accordingly. (A good 11x14 photo will

outscore an equally good 8x10 photo in this approach.)

Entries are to be delivered to The Picture Frame Factory Outlet, 382 Walnut St. by noon, Saturday, Sept. 23. Entries, along with any ribbons and prizes, can be picked up at the shop the week after the fair closes. Got questions? Greg is available during business hours at 575-526-4048.

## Mark Your Calendar

### Tuesday, September 5

DAPC 1st Tuesday Meeting

Portfolio Presentation:

Carl Maier

7 p.m. SWEC

### Tuesday, September 19

DAPC Regular Meeting

Theme: Up Close + 3rd

Quarter Print Contest

7 p.m. SWEC

### Tuesday, October 3

DAPC 1st Tuesday Meeting

Astro Photography by

Jeff Johnson

7 p.m. SWEC

### Tuesday, October 17

DAPC Regular Meeting

Theme: Poor Traits + Photo of the Year Presentation

7 p.m. SWEC

## September's theme: *Up Close (Macro)*



"Tunnel Vision" by Debbie Hands



"Spoons" by Kristi Dixon

## Themes

by Seth Madell

Once photography became a prevalent part of the Victorian era, two schools of thought and practice diverged. One set of photographers set about the business of documenting the actual details of life - nature, portraiture, journalism, and the like. The second set went about creating a more artistic version of the world - imagining what might have been instead of what was.

Probably discovered more or less by accident, double exposure photographs were used to create haunting images of ghosts seemingly in our presence. Double exposures allowed for a more artistic interpretation of reality (and probably not an inconsequential number of scams and frauds).

With the advent of digital imaging, and the widespread availability of image editing software,

the artistic among us can create fantastical versions of the world on a computer screen. Multiple photographs of reality can be composited into a fantasy that could only exist in our imaginations. Such was the challenge for August, as members were encouraged to submit multiple exposures, whether created in the camera or in software.

The theme for August was Double Vision. Eight club members submitted 23 images for this month's theme presentation, and used a variety of techniques. Reflections

were the basis for Dale Taylor's Street Battle, Kristi Dixon's Spoons, and EJ Choi's very serene Peace. Texture overlays were used by Will Keener. Dave Brown's Lincoln and Tabatha Granger's Double Exposure series were good examples of clipping one photo into another. Seth Madell, Dave Brown, and Debbie Hands all used cloning or cut-and-paste to create anachronistic and fanciful versions of their subjects.

Next month's theme

is Up Close. Members should submit up to three close-up, macro images by sending them to Kristi Dixon by Saturday, September 16 at [themes@daphotoclub.org](mailto:themes@daphotoclub.org). Photos should be in JPG format, and should not exceed 2MB in size. Check the size by opening a finder window. Show the icons as a list with details and look at the size column. Keep them no bigger than 1920 pixels wide and 1080 pixels tall. Include your name and a title with each photo.



"I Can't Lose" by Dave Brown

# Announcements

## September Meeting features Carl Maier



During our Tuesday, September 5 meeting, Carl will have a portfolio presentation.

From Carl: I have been involved with photography all my life. I became interested while in High School by being on the school paper and annual year book staff. That was followed by a 20 year stint as an Air Force photographer, 2 years as an aerial photographer for a mapping company, and then thirteen years involved in photographic education. Upon retirement(?) I started a custom darkroom business, and kept active working with photo groups, gallery showings, and teaching workshops. Upon relocating to Wisconsin, I opened a photo studio specializing in weddings and portraits. I returned to Denver in 1996 and continued with my photographic passion. I became involved with "The Photographer's Gallery" showing and selling my prints. Last year we relocated to Las Cruces where I continue to pursue the Elusive Image,

The images I will be presenting are done in Black and White, created on both film or digitally. The images range from those taken in my early 20s up to the present and cover a wide area of interests. You are invited to see my world as I see it.

## October Meeting features Jeff Johnson



During our Tuesday, October 3 meeting, Jeff will present on Astro Photography.

From Jeff: I have two telescopes for imaging that I use for different fields of view (FOV). For smaller objects, I use a larger (130mm aperture) telescope (Takahashi TOA-130F) at approx 1000mm focal length and f/7.7. For larger objects I use a 60mm aperture telescope (Takahashi FS-60C) at approx 355mm focal length and f/5.9. For my demonstration, I will be using the FS-60C and the actual laptop I use when imaging as well as the camera used. I have purposely designed a threaded optical train that allows me to (relatively) easily switch the camera between either the FS-60C or the TOA-130F telescope. Since both telescopes are refractors, the "backfocus" in each optical train is critical. For my setup in the demonstration, I will not have the actual telescope mount. Thus, the list of demonstration hardware:

- FS-60C telescope
- QSI 540wsg astroCCD camera (2048x2048, 7.4x7.4 $\mu$ m)
- Starlight Xpress Lodestar off-axis guide camera (attached to QSI camera's off-axis guide port))
- Filter wheel (internal – and built into the QSI camera)

- Laptop computer with AstroArt5 software (and also software I wrote to control camera exposure length and filter wheel)

I will demonstrate connecting to the camera. Connecting mount (simulated) using ASCOM driver. Simulate polar alignment and 3-point alignment. Connecting filter wheel. Simulate focusing procedure. Walk through code I wrote to control acquisition of data. Walk through some basic steps I do for image data calibration as part of image-preprocessing.

## Third Quarter Print Contest Approaching

Each year the Doña Ana Photography Club hosts three quarterly print competitions. They are a great opportunity to give and receive feedback from your peers in the club, learning what "works" and what doesn't can go a very long way towards improving your eye and skills. This gives you an excuse to actually print out some of your favorite photos, which can transform an image as the print and the digital file are two distinct animals. And you have a chance to take home a ribbon or three and earn points toward the coveted "Photographer of the Year" award.

Join us on October 17 with up to three prints (8.5x11 or smaller) and gain some insight into your photography. And start thinking about which photos from the past year you are going to include in the Photo of the Year contest.

## 2018 Bootcamp

DAPC bootcamp begins again in January. If you are interested in teaching any presentations or volunteering to help during classes, please contact Rob Peinert.



## Looking for shutterbug talent

The publisher of a couple of free, local newsletters that are mailed to our partnered communities is searching for photographers. They're interested in growing the roster of talent for the publications. Sonoma Ranch Life and Picacho Living. Elsewhere nearby, they have partnered with the upper Franklin Hills in El Paso, as well as a couple of communities in ABQ and one in Santa Fe.

The publications focus on what's beautiful in our local communities: the landscapes, homes and most importantly, the people. N2 utilizes commercial, event and family photography in every issue. Chances are that something you've already shot may have a place in one of the publications, and you can get it published just by knowing we're here and what we're looking for.

If you are interested in publishing your work, or promoting your

business to these communities, please contact Liz Hamm, at [liz.hamm@n2pub.com](mailto:liz.hamm@n2pub.com) or 310-488-7927 to set up a meeting to discuss. In 15-minutes, you may find yourself in a position to deepen the relationships you have in these communities, as well as grow new ones.

## Friends of the Bosque del Apache Annual Photo Contest

Each year, Friends of the Bosque del Apache hosts a Photo Contest. All are invited to share their photos taken at the Bosque del Apache, by submitting their best photos for our contest. There are two categories for photo submission: Refuge & People.

They are always looking for great photos, any submitted photo may be displayed in a Friends' publication. Winning photos are displayed on the west wall of the Visitor Center entrance. Any time an artist's photo is used, they do so with acknowledgment. Photo contest applications are accepted through October 1, 2017. All winners will be posted on their website and prints displayed in the refuge visitor center from November 2017 to November 2018.

Please carefully read and follow the Rules and FAQ, it has critical information that will enhance your

chances to win. Submit your photos using our Photo Contest Submission Form here.

## Thank you Last meeting

Special thanks to Sidney Webb for his presentation on Amateur Solar Astronomy. Thanks to all who submitted photos from their Slot Canyon field trip and to Victor Gibbs for leading the excursion.

And thanks to Dave Brown for presenting photos from the Dripping Springs hummingbird trip lead by Nirmal Khandan.

## Spotlight Member Achievements

The beautiful photography of **Nirmal Khandan** is featured in the NM Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum's Arts Corridor through December 3. The show features 32 images by the Las Cruces photographer that capture a variety of birds in their natural habitat. Some of the birds are residents of the region, and some are migrants. Khandan's photographs aim to bring awareness of the diversity and beauty of the local avian life, as well as the importance of habitat.



DAPC is a proud member of the PSA and we encourage you to consider becoming an individual member of PSA for more information please visit their website at [www.psaphoto.org](http://www.psaphoto.org) and see what they have to offer.

- President, Erik Winter** - [president@daphotoclub.org](mailto:president@daphotoclub.org)
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