

# In Focus

*The monthly Newsletter of the Focus Camera Club  
December 2011*

*Photos in this issue are from last month's 'Open' competition.*

## End of the year and end of an era

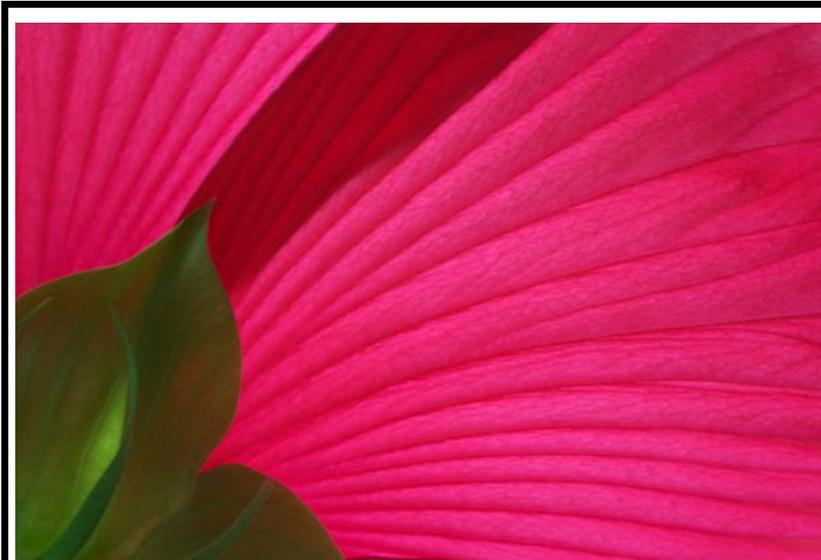
As we close out 2011 the Focus camera club also ends meetings at the Animal Hospital. Starting in January 2012 we'll be moving to a new location in Greenwood Village. Details are in this newsletter and all of you should have gotten an email from Joe.

The December meeting is also time for Voting for next year's officers. Make sure you attend and have your vote counted.

## This Month's Featured Article

Taking pictures is a lot of fun and a creative outlet for many of us. But displaying your artwork for others to enjoy completes the "creative circle."

[Read more here...](#)



*A Nice Backside by Gwen Pina*

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## Focus Camera Club Officers and Committee members

### Officers

*President:* Joe Bonita

*Vice President:* Frank Gibbs

*Treasurer:* Peggy Dietz

*Secretary:* Paul DiSalvo

### Committees

*Executive:* Joe Bonita, Russ Burden, Peggy Dietz, Paul DiSalvo, Frank Gibbs, Cliff

Lawson, Marv Mickelson, Tim Visser

*Competitions:* Russ Burden, Marv Mickelson, Joe Bonita, Frank Gibbs, Nancy Myer

*Programs:* Tim Visser

*Membership:* Peggy Dietz

*Special Projects:* Marv Mickelson

*Education:* (Currently unmanned)

The purpose of the Focus Camera Club is to further its members' enjoyment, knowledge and mastery of photographic skills through cooperative efforts and fellowship.

## Focus Camera Club Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held the First and Third Tuesday of each month. We gather in the meeting room at the back of the Animal Hospital building located at 5640 County Line Place in Highlands Ranch. Get a Google Map by [clicking here](#). Meetings start promptly at 7 PM. Parking is at the back of the building, but please leave the first 6 spots open. We can also park in the "Tiles for Less" parking lot just to the east of the hospital and walk across.

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## ***Hang Pictures the Professional Way***

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### **By Metro Creative**

Dressing up rooms is easily achieved by hanging artwork on the walls. However, hanging them at the right height, ensuring they're straight and avoiding errant holes in the walls can prove more challenging than many would like to admit.

Some people hang pictures at the wrong height. Others miss the stud in the wall and have to keep trying over and over to get the picture to stay vertical. There are some tips to follow that cut down on needless work and make the process a bit easier.

Using templates is one of the easiest ways to hang pictures. Simply trace the outside of the frame onto a piece of paper or cardboard for each picture that will be hung. Then use a tape that isn't very tacky to temporarily hang the templates on the wall. Play with placement so that an idea of layout and the finished product can be realized. This is particularly helpful if multiple framed photos or artwork will be displayed.

This method enables homeowners to step back and view the entire picture, instead of having one hand on the picture frame while eyeballing placement. Plus, it eliminates the need to punch holes into the wall only to find the frame is not placed where one desires.

After the placement is finalized, hang the actual frames, one by one, removing the templates in the process.

Another key tip to remember is that it isn't essential that a wall beam is tapped into when hanging a picture on the wall. While homeowners should certainly attempt to locate a beam when hanging heavy items, sometimes the stud doesn't fall where it will be aesthetically pleasing to hang the frame. In such instances, expandable wall anchors can provide more stability. There are different anchors available depending on need. Some are plastic and can be pushed into a hole in the drywall. Once a screw is used in the anchor, the anchor will fan out and grab onto the backside of the drywall. Metal anchors may be spring-loaded and provide even more strength.

Here are some other pointers to keep in mind.

- Try grouping four pictures together in a square or rectangle to create the illusion of one larger picture.
- Always hang pictures at eye-level.
- When hanging a picture or artwork over the sofa, leave a few inches so the picture is the focal point.
- Keep scale in mind. Don't place a small picture on a large wall or put a large picture on a small wall.
- Consider the use of similarly hued picture frames or ones all of the same style to lend a cohesive look to the photo arrangements.
- When hanging art over a piece of furniture, it should not be longer than the width of the furniture.
- Pull colors from the furniture and other decor so photos or artwork coordinate with the design style.
- Pictures can be hung diagonally going up a staircase or anywhere there is a natural progression of height.
- Think about illuminating the artwork. An upward or downward facing spotlight can make the picture pop in the room.

## Program and Competition Schedules

Program Schedule		Competition Schedule	
12/06/11	Best of YOUR Best & OfficerVote	12/20/11	No Meeting
01/05/12	<b>Focus First Thursday Meeting</b>	01/17/11	<b>Subject</b> – Open
02/02/12	Presentation - Subject to be determined, Member Critique	02/21/12	<b>Subject</b> – Art in Nature

### Best of YOUR Best and Officer voting

This coming Tuesday's meeting will be the one at which we elect our officers for next year. The slate of officers that the search committee has produced consist of the following:

For President, Frank Gibbs

For Vice President, Tim Visser

For Treasurer, Peggy Dietz

For Secretary, Paul DiSalvo

Please come to the meeting and give us your vote.

### Best of your Best program.

Although the website shows the subject of the December 6th meeting to be the Best of the Best Competition, it's not going to be a competition. Rather, it will be a kind of show-and-tell gathering in furtherance of our education program at the club.

The idea is that each member wishing to do so can bring what he or she thinks was the best picture he or she entered in competition during the year, regardless of what the judges thought of it. Then the member can explain the details of the picture: Where and how it was taken. What the member was trying to accomplish. How he or she went about it. What, if any post processing was employed. What was learned from it. What, if any changes he or she would make if they had to do it over again.

There will be no scoring. Digital projections should be sent in the usual way and time before the meeting.

This will be our last club meeting for the year held at the animal hospital.



*Finding My Way by Jim Doolittle*

## We are moving...

The Executive Committee voted to move our meeting place and the date of our first meeting each month. The reason is that our current quarters at the animal hospital have been leased to a business and the smaller room that we can still use is really tight for meetings with high attendance. When we arrived at the hospital after our meeting, we were surprised to find a notice posted on the door into our current room telling us that we no longer have the unfettered use of it. Or, at least, that's one way it was read. Another way is that we are out of that room. So, our decision came none too early.

*You should have received an email from Joe with the following:*

- a. That we are moving in January of next year and the reason why.
- b. The new times and location: From 7:00 PM until 10:00 PM on the first Thursday and third Tuesday of each month for all of next year at The Community Room at the Greenwood Village City Hall, 6060 S. Quebec in Greenwood Village. (Some other group had taken up the first Tuesdays before we made our application but we were able to secure the first Thursday.) That is, unless someone has a better suggestion that can be acted upon almost immediately.
- c. That the new location is at no cost to the club.

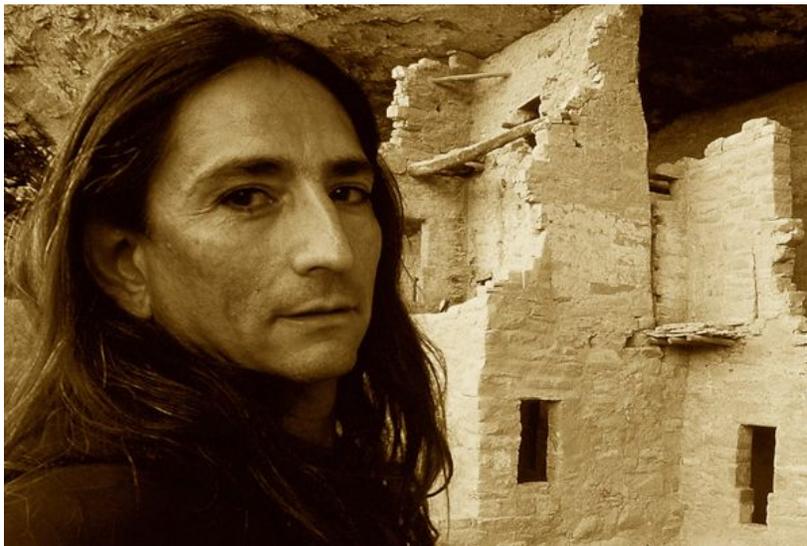
It's not clear yet whether we will hold a meeting on the first Thursday, January 5th. Usually we don't because the banquet is our substitute for that meeting. Frank, Tim Visser and I think that a orientation meeting on that date would be good. And Tim has a program in mind. But we have to run it by the Executive Committee. Currently, we're planning to have the banquet at the end of that week, the date depending on what reservations we can make. One objection might be that it's just too much for the membership to come to both.

Be sure to attend the December meeting to get further details on the banquet date and location.



## November Open Competition Results

	Media	Artist	Image Title	Score	Award	
<b>f5.6</b>	Color Print	Muffie Swan	Color Along the Path	8	1st	
	Digital Projection	Gwen Pina	Nice Backside	10	1st	
		Maria Armstrong	Ethiopian Child	9	2nd	
		Muffie Swan	Walking in the Rain	8	3rd	
	Monochrome Print	Gwen Pina	Adobe Sky	9	1st	
<b>f8</b>	Color Print	Richard Caverly	Old Soul	9	1st	
		Richard Caverly	Focused	9	2nd	
	Digital Projection	David Irwin	Yesterday and Today	10	1st	
		Frank Mercado	Rings of Power	9	2nd	
		John Gravilius	1st Week	9	3rd	
		Jim Graham	A Soccer Sketch	9	HM	
	Monochrome Print	Paul Olthoff	Shadows	9	1st	
	<b>f11</b>	Color Print	Paul DiSalvo	Blue Mood	10	1st
			Jim Doolittle	Finding My Way	10	2nd
			Paul DiSalvo	Fast and Across the Plate	9	3rd
Digital Projection		Nancy Myer	Golden Curls	10	1st	
		Jim Doolittle	Mandy	10	2nd	
		Dan Greenberg	A Walk with his Daughters	9	3rd	
		Barbara Kennedy	Hallett's Peak	9	HM	
Monochrome Print	Jim Doolittle	Mormon Barn	10	1st		
	Jimmy Doolittle	Row of Relics	10	2nd		
<b>f16</b>	Color Print	Marv Mickelson	Summer at American Basin	10	1st	
		Helen Tyler	Beside Still Water	10	2nd	
	Digital Projection	Ilene Nova	Columbine Trio	10	1st	



*Yesterday and Today by David Irwin*

## ***Calls For Entries / Photo Contests***

### **Tamron Macro Photo Contest**

Enter the "My Macro Exhibit" photo contest to win one of four Tamron lenses, and be featured in Tamron's newsletter and website.

**Theme:** Macro Photography

**Submission:** Build your 3D virtual exhibit with your best macro shots taken with a Tamron lens. The winning exhibit will be selected based on overall image quality of the collection.

**Deadline:** December 31, 2011

Entry details are on the [macro contest webpage](#). Be sure to note you must enter at least 8 images and there are other stipulations about editing, etc. Read carefully.

## ***Local Photo Opps and Events***

### **Russ Burden Photo Tours**

[www.russburdenphotography.com](http://www.russburdenphotography.com)

303.791.9997

#### **2011 Photo Tours**

Dec. 6 - 12, Bosque Del Apache & White Sands  
Natl. Monument

#### **2012 Photo Tours**

February 18 - 24, Birds of Florida

April 14 - 20, Monument Valley and Slot Canyons

May 5 - 11, Arches and Canyonlands with 5 days  
of Photoshop instruction

#### **2012 Photo Tours (con't)**

May 26 - June 4, Oregon Coast - 10 day trip

June 16 - 22, Grand Teton / Yellowstone National  
Parks – Spring

Sept 23 - Oct 2, Tetons and Yellowstone Natl. Parks  
in Fall - 10 days

Oct. 16 - 21, Hunts Mesa - Aerial perspective of  
Monument Valley and Capital Reef National Park

Nov. 3 – 9, Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks

Dec. 1 - 7, Bosque Del Apache / White Sands Natl.  
Mon.

### **Blossoms of Light**

Dec. 2, 2011 – Jan. 1, 2012

5:30-9:30 p.m. nightly at 10th & York Street

Nightly at Wadsworth Blvd. & C-470

Visit Blossoms of Light at York Street to see more than 1 million colorful lights draped in elegant designs. Trail of Lights at Chatfield brings you over 1 million twinkling lights that illuminate a winding path through the Colorado countryside. Members receive two complimentary tickets to each event.

Visit the [Botanic Gardens website](#) for details and ticket info.

## Denver Zoo – Zoo Lights

December 9-January 1, 5-9 p.m.

Come and experience a holiday light safari with more than 38 brilliantly-illuminated acres of lights, featuring more than 150 animated animal sculptures that swing through trees, jump across lawns, hide in bushes and appear in places where they're least expected.

Details at their website <http://www.denverzoo.org/visitors/events/zoolights.asp>

## Frame #37

A collection of extra tidbits I've discovered during the past few weeks.

– Got Topaz? Adjust just got an upgrade to version 5 that includes some of the tools in their B&W Effects software.

Visit [topazlabs.com](http://topazlabs.com) to grab your free upgrade. (If you use Adjust with Lightroom or iPhoto or Aperture you also need to upgrade FusionExpress)

– MyPublisher has a buy one get one free deal thru Dec 5<sup>th</sup>. Use the coupon code MERRYBOGO when ordering books from their site at MyPublisher.com

## News from Nikon

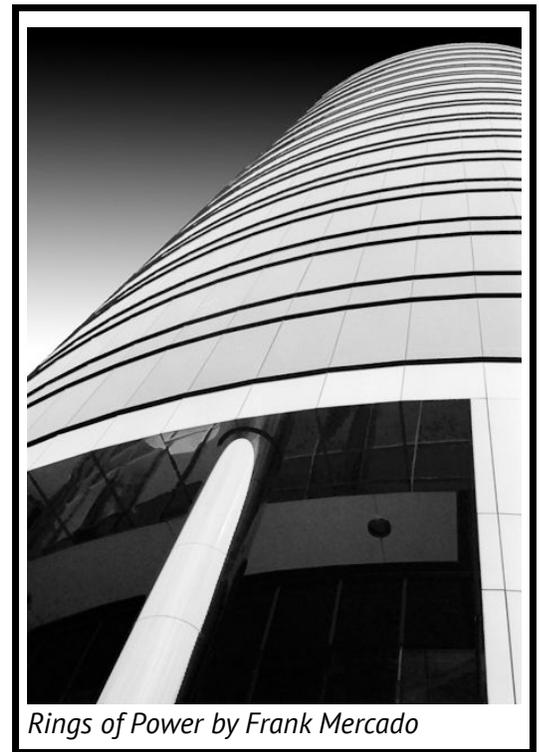
Read their press release from December 1 so you can gauge how long you may have to wait before picking up some more Nikon goodies. [See it here at Imaging Resource.](#)

## For Sale

Jim Doolittle has a Spyder2Pro Monitor Calibrator for sale.

Used frequently, but cared for.

Only \$35. Call Jim at 303-913-2333.



*Rings of Power by Frank Mercado*

“ The progress of a photographer can often be marked by the accumulated number of mistakes he or she had made along the way. ”

- Catherine Jo Morgan