



# The Reflector



www.delawarephotographicsociety.org • Delaware Photographic Society  
PSA Award-Winning Publication

April 2007

## President's Message

The 74<sup>th</sup> Wilmington International Exhibition has been successfully completed. My thanks to everyone who contributed your time and money to this substantial undertaking. We are already preparing for the 75<sup>th</sup>, which will likely be somewhat more difficult in certain respects.

For one thing, we must determine a new location for processing entries. Many thanks to Irv Klair, who has allowed us the use of his basement for three months of each of the past ten plus years. Irv has moved downstate, and his former home will likely be flattened for commercial use. If anyone can offer us workspace for the months of January, February, and March, or knows of a possible free or inexpensive available space, please notify me or Bob Hunt.

We also anticipate the need for five laptops on judging day; three for scoring, one for the digital pro-



Wave 1 © Bogdan Pazera  
74<sup>th</sup> WIEP Gold Medal  
Peoples' Choice Local  
Winner

jector, and one for data entry. We now have two, thanks to the donation by Rob Tuttle. If anyone has or is planning an upgrade, consider a tax-deductible donation.

While I'm asking for things, your next president is already at work lining up volunteers to take on the many tasks required to do all the things we hope to accomplish in the next club year. Please consider stepping up and volunteering whatever time you can contribute.

It would also be helpful if you would keep an eye out for potential judges for our monthly competitions. We need a large pool in order to field three judges for our 19 annual competitions without

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Photo Essay Competition April 30

Join us on April 30 for the annual Photo Essay Competition. There is still time to submit your entry forms by the **April 23** deadline. Competition rules are available at meetings or

on our Web site. Key among the rules is that the photo essay **must tell a story**.

If you have any questions, contact Patsy Costis at 302.798.8195 or [pfcostis@juno.com](mailto:pfcostis@juno.com).

### Calendar of Events

- **April 2**  
7:30 pm Instruction Night (pg 3)  
*Digital entry deadline*
- **April 9**  
7:30 pm Slide/Digital Night
- **April 16**  
7:30 pm Print Night
- **April 23**  
7:30 pm "You be the Judge"
- **April 28**  
DVCCC Spring Foto Fling  
Maple Shade, NJ (pg. 2)
- **April 30**  
7:30pm Photo Essay Contest

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2006-2007**

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[www.delawarephotographicsociety.org](http://www.delawarephotographicsociety.org)

The Delaware Camera Club (DCC) was established January 28, 1931. DCC is a charter member of the Photographic Society of America and The Delaware Valley Council of Camera Clubs. In 2002 the name was changed to the Delaware Photographic Society (DPS) and the Society became a tax deductible educational organization.

## Personal Ponies, Ltd.

By June McKenney

**P**ersonal Ponies, Ltd. (PPL) is a non-profit organization currently based at Carousel Park on Limestone Road. This unique program is dedicated to providing children with disabilities an opportunity to love, care for and enjoy a small Shetland pony, without charge. Patty Draper, Delaware State Director of

PPL, is looking for talented photographers to help promote Personal Ponies here in New Castle County. Photo shoots may include moments with individual family visits, special events such as Special Olympics, Point-to-Point, and Ag Day, just to name a few. The Personal Ponies 4H Club will be creating a Volunteer Handbook



Special moments at PPL. Photo by June McKenney

that will be filled with many photo opportunities. To learn more about Personal Ponies, Ltd., please visit their website at [www.personalponies.org](http://www.personalponies.org). Anyone interested in doing some photo shoots or receiving a copy of the group's 2007 Calendar of Events, contact Patty at 302. 455.1051 or [pattydraper@comcast.net](mailto:pattydraper@comcast.net).



## DVCCC Spring Foto Fling

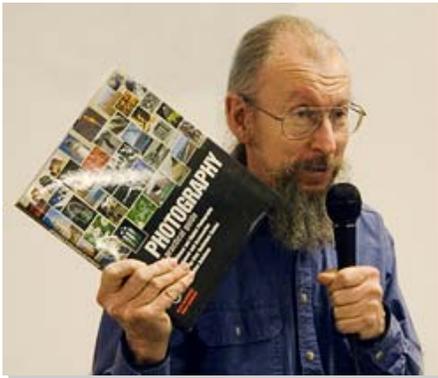
**D**on't miss the Delaware Valley Council of Camera Clubs (DVCCC) Spring Foto Fling on **April 28** from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The all-day photo event will be held at the Maple Shade Municipal Complex, 200 Stiles Avenue, Maple Shade, NJ. The featured presenter will be Jacob Mosser III, FPSA, HonNEC, from N. Reading, Mass. Photo competitions will be held

during the morning session. Attendees may enter by 9:30 a.m. and compete for 30 medals. You must be present to compete. Also...look for the stereo card display, Photo Travel Exhibition, and handouts for better photography. Contest categories, rules, and program details are available on-line at [www.dvccc-photo.org](http://www.dvccc-photo.org).

DVCCC Foto Fling is made possible by proceeds from the annual DVCCC Photo Travel Circuit. Admission is FREE to PSA members and members of Council clubs, such as DPS; \$20 to all others.

## Instruction Night



**I**nstruction Night sessions are held the first Monday of the month. Classes are free to DPS members. For more information, contact Education Director, Karl Leck, at [usesa@earthlink](mailto:usesa@earthlink) or 610.388.0298.

### April 2: *Digital Image Workflow: When To Do What*

Digital photography has brought a new word into the mainstream

lexicon: *Workflow*. This means image handling and processing after the picture is taken (aka image capture). This includes filing systems, image rating, and all the changes that can be made with software like Photoshop. We will take a simplified view of this big topic and discuss some ideas on making your personal workflow effective. An important ingredient is the sequence in which certain tools in photo software are applied.

- **April 23: You be the Judge**  
– Jane Strobach, Karl Leck
- **May 7: 5 Photographers Discuss their 5 Favorite Images Each** – The High Five

## President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

asking too much from any of them.

Aside from laptops, all manner of other donations are welcome. As I discussed in an earlier message, the Society maintains a Photo Equipment Trust, with all manner of equipment available for loan to members. Unfortunately, I have not been able to maintain a list of the available equipment, but if you are in need of an unusual toy, specific or unspecified, ask me about it.

I'd like to acknowledge and publicize a recent donation to the trust from a non-member, Mrs. Mary Ellen Gerard, of two com-

plete 4x5 press cameras, and an 8x10 view camera, sans lens and film holder. One of those could provide hours of interesting endeavor, and we have the required film tanks for 4x5 available as well.

Finally, of course, if you have a surplus of cash, the demands of modern technology are beginning to challenge our ability to operate in the black. Thank you for all you've done, and whatever you can still do.

*Jeff*

## Vignettes



- Instruction Night is held the first Monday of the month at 7:30p.m.
- Competition nights are held on the second and third Mondays starting at 7:30 p.m.
- Program night is the last Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m.
- Location: Cokesbury Village, DuPont Pavilion, 726 Loveville Road, Hockessin, DE 19707.
- Membership dues should be addressed to: DPS Treasurer, John Blankenbaker, P.O. Box 120, Chadds Ford, PA 19317. Dues are \$35 for individuals, \$25 for others at the same address, and half the individual for junior or nonresident members. The dues for first-year members are \$20 per person.
- *The Reflector* is published by the Delaware Photographic Society, September through June and printed by Academy Printing of Wilmington, Delaware. No material may be reproduced without written permission. Contribution deadline is the third Monday of the month. Send announcements and/or articles to Sharon Coffey at 48 Partridge Lane, Kennett Square, PA 19348, 610.388.2741 or [SESCoffey@aol.com](mailto:SESCoffey@aol.com).
- DPS members are encouraged to participate in our Yahoo! group, DPS-Exchange. For information, go to [DPS-Exchange@yahoogroups.com](mailto:DPS-Exchange@yahoogroups.com)
- Visit our Web site at: [www.delawarephotographicsociety.org](http://www.delawarephotographicsociety.org)

## Questions & Answers



Contributed  
monthly by  
Erik Kissa

For more information on photographic equipment and techniques visit me at:  
[www.psa-newmember.org/consultation\\_services/equipment.html](http://www.psa-newmember.org/consultation_services/equipment.html)

The text on the website is revised to keep it up to date.

**Q:** *I need a macro and a fish-eye lens for my Canon Digital Rebel. Any recommendations?*

**A:** Ideally, close-up photography requires at least three macro lenses of different focal lengths. If only one macro lens is available, a macro lens with the 70mm focal length is best for general close-up photography with a camera having an APS-C size sensor, like the Rebel. Sigma makes an outstanding f/2.8 70mm macro lens. The f/2.8 60mm USM Canon lens also is very good but not quite long enough for general close-up use. The Sigma lens is heavier (17.4 oz versus 12.2 oz) and more expensive (\$429 versus \$385). The Canon lens is for the APS-C size sensor only, the Sigma covers the full 35mm frame as well, if you ever decide to buy the Canon 5D. The Canon f/2.5 50mm macro lens is inexpensive (\$240) but too short for the all-purpose macro photography with only one lens.

The selection of a macro lens depends on the type of macro photography. If you photograph mainly insects, a long working distance

and consequently a long focal length are beneficial. Canon makes a very good f/2.8 100mm USM macro lens (\$470). Very good macro lenses are made by Tamron (f/2.8 90mm, \$399) and Tokina (f/2.8 100mm, \$400) as well. The very heavy f/3.5 180mm macro lenses, made by Canon, Sigma, and Tamron, are useful when a very long working distance is needed.

For a fisheye 180° view with the Rebel you would need a lens with an 8mm focal length. To my knowledge, only Sigma makes one for Canon (f/3.5 8mm, \$679). The lens has a rear filter drawer for slip-in gelatin filters. Tokina claims that their 10-17mm f/3.5-4.5ATX DX, \$560, zoom lens has a field curvature to create a “fisheye” effect. I have never felt a need for buying a fisheye lens, although I have seen good work done with such a lens.

**Q:** *I have an f/2.8 105mm macro lens. When I use it for close-up work, the f/number shown in the viewfinder is 3.5 or even larger. Why has the f/number changed?*

**A:** The display in the viewfinder shows the effective f/number during picture taking. The f/number is the ratio of the aperture size over the focal length. The focal length is the distance between the optical center of the lens and the sensor or film. Because the aperture size is always smaller than the focal length, the f/number is a reciprocal number, such as 1/2.8, 1/3.5 and so on. The aperture size means here the diameter of the circular opening which allows light to fall on the film or sensor.

For people loving details, the aperture usually does not stay circular when the diaphragm is closed down. The aperture size is then the diameter of a circle representing the area of the opening in the diaphragm.

The nominal f/number engraved on the lens is determined by focusing the lens at infinity. When the lens is focused to a closer distance, the lens is moved away from the sensor or film and the actual focal length increases. Because the aperture size remains the same, the ratio of the aperture size to the focal length decreases. The effective f/number increases because the f/number is a reciprocal number.

Macro lenses with an internal focus mechanism do not move the lens barrel. Instead, some lens elements in the lens barrel move when the lens is focused. The optical principles are still the same. The f/number displayed in the viewfinder increases when the macro lens is focused to a close-up distance.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Questions & Answers

(Continued from page 4)

**Q:** *My digital SLR camera is too bulky to have it always with me. I need a small digital camera which fits into my pocket and makes pictures of good quality. The number of small point and shoot cameras is bewildering. How can I choose one?*

**A:** The number of small point and shoot cameras on the market is huge indeed and new models appear in a steady flow. In order to make a selection, you will have to decide which specifications are important for you.

- The size should be small enough to fit into a shirt pocket, about 3.5" x 2.5" x 1".
- The weight should be less than 6 ounces.
- The resolution of a 6 MP sensor is optimal. To cram more pixels into the very small sensor may increase noise without a useful benefit.
- The lens should be of good optical quality, indicated by high resolution, low distortion and sufficient resistance to flare. The lens should produce a sharp 8"x10" print, or a 13"x19" print with the help of Photoshop. The range of the zoom lens, equivalent to a 35-110mm lens on a 35mm film camera, is adequate. Extending the zoom range may lower the optical quality of the lens.
- Optical stabilization is essential because the small camera is difficult to hold steady. Most cameras stabilize the image by a lens-shift or a sensor-shift correction. Some cameras with electronic stabilization have motion detectors which

provide data for sharpening the image by in-camera processing. The electronic system is less costly but less effective. Some cameras use an ISO shift to increase the shutter speed. This is not real stabilization but an Auto ISO mode.

- The size of the LCD screen has been increasing and the 2.5" size is now quite common. The brightness and resolution of the screen are as important as its size.

- An optical viewfinder is in my opinion very important. I would not buy a camera without a viewfinder. In bright sunlight the LCD screen may be very difficult to see. Framing fast moving subjects on the LCD screen is difficult. Under these conditions an optical viewfinder of a compact camera is very helpful, although the viewfinder is usually not quite accurate. A comparison of the areas seen by the viewfinder and the LCD screen in good light gives an approximate idea what to expect when the screen is too dark. As another advantage, the optical viewfinder allows the camera to rest on the face of the photographer to reduce camera movement. Unfortunately, the optical viewfinder of a compact camera is disappearing. Only a few compact cameras have a viewfinder.

- The start-up time and shutter lag are important. Although compact cameras have made a great improvement in this area, many cameras are still deficient.

- Exposure compensation is not as important as it sounds. The exposure accuracy of a compact camera is usually adequate or correctable in the computer. A correction of exposure with the tiny buttons

of the compact camera is too cumbersome to be useful.

- The in-camera electronic flash of compact cameras is usually weak. Do not expect much.

Many compact cameras fit the size requirement. Optical stabilization is offered by Canon, Kodak, Leica, Nikon, Olympus, Panasonic, Pentax, Samsung, and Sony. However, if an optical viewfinder is important, the Canon Elph cameras are the only ones to consider.

The Canon SD700IS Elph camera meets the requirements listed above. The zoom lens, equivalent to a 35-140mm lens of a film camera, f/2.8 to f/5.5, is quite good. With the lens in the short or medium zooming position, I have made 8x10" prints sharp from corner to corner. When increasing the print size to 24"x30", the right edge becomes noticeably softer but is not objectionable after sharpening. The lens handles flare very well. Distortion is very low in short and medium zoom ranges but noticeable at the long zoom range. The lens is better than some of the SLR lenses I tested! The viewfinder shows slightly less than the actual image recorded but does not require extensive cropping. The LCD screen is bright, but like the LCD screens of other digital cameras, it is difficult to read in very bright light. The menu is well organized and easy to use.

I have two negative comments. The power on-off switch is small and difficult to find in a hurry. The flash is notably weak. The flash output is limited to 11ft. in the wide angle, and only 6 ft. in the tele position, even at the

(Continued on page 7)

## Sail Away! (with camera)

By John Toutkaldjian

To a photographer, it was the best of both worlds – a Caribbean cruise and an intense course on photography. We were aboard the Carnival Legend attending Arthur Bleich's seventh Digital Photography Workshop.

For eight days, 20 attendees sailed the ocean attending four hours of classes (plus two optional hours) during four 'at sea' days with Bleich and instructors, Dan Loffler, an expert on Photoshop, and, Ron Wolfe, a photographer extraordinaire and technical wizard. Bleich has one of the most varied and extensive backgrounds of anyone I've ever met in visual media. A former film/TV documentary maker, TV news director, newspaper reporter, photo magazine editor, business entrepreneur and university professor, Bleich was first and still remains a photographer who has shot magazine assignments all over the world.

I learned about this venture by a short paragraph in *Inkjet News* and checked out Bleich's web site, [www.dpcorner.com/cruise](http://www.dpcorner.com/cruise), which described the sessions and showed some work of those who attended prior excursions. It convinced me this would be fun and might help me get a few 27's at DPS.

To my surprise, I also had a choice of three 'gifts' and a bag-load of other goodies that totaled more than \$1,000 in value. Bleich provides a very extensive workbook that you can print off his web site. I love his no-pressure approach and admire his high professional standards. It's up to you as to how good a photographer you want to become.

Bleich knows his stuff, having taught photography for many years. Topics included concepts and philosophies of shooting – how, when, point of view, lighting. Of course, camera technical features were reviewed. Bleich had visual examples of everything he described. We discussed ISO, JPEG vs. RAW, depth of field, aperture shift, camera shake, and so on. I learned a better way to wrap the camera strap around my neck and arm to help steady my shot.



Dockside at Limon, Costa Rica  
by John Toutkaldjian

Dan Loffler had a number of sessions on Photoshop techniques – using Levels, cropping, using adjustment layers and built-in masks for selective burning and dodging. Ron Wolfe discussed RAW vs. JPEG and I'm now confused as to which way to go since Bleich suggested JPEG for most of our group. Equally important were the side bar, one-on-one moments with the instructors. Ron Wolfe

was particularly helpful to me.

Assignments were general and non-specific, but we were expected to cover certain subjects such as shapes, colors, and angles; then shoot close, then closer yet, shoot at night, shoot from a high angle/low angle, shoot interiors (but don't use flash!). Although Bleich hates flash, he did demonstrate a flash unit that was radio-controlled and omni-directional. It could probably light up our entire meeting room.

During stops in Panama, Costa Rica and Belize, we were free to do whatever we wanted, but the object was to shoot a ton of pictures which were critiqued at night in informal sessions by Bleich. The last day at sea, we showed him our best six. It was interesting to me to hear his opinions on how certain pictures might work for certain uses; some to hang on a wall, some for possible ad use, some as fine art photography, and some simply as vacation memories. Bleich is going to compile samples of the attendees' best work and post them on the [www.dpcorner.com](http://www.dpcorner.com) web site in the next few months. You might want to take a look and also read his no-nonsense editorials posted on the home page.

It was a great photographic experience. The Legend served the absolute best food we've had in eight cruises. Of all that I learned, and it was a lot, these were the most important lessons: use your sense of observation and shoot, shoot and shoot. If I only do these two things, I'm confident the rest will fall in place and help me be a better photographer. Who's ready to sail away? 🌊

## Member News

- One of **Ray Magnani's** "Winterthur series" photographs was published in the AAA Mid-Atlantic Magazine.
- **Lynn Maniscalco** is the newest WIEP Senior Fellow!!! This prestigious honor requires 100 acceptances and is the highest achievement a WIEP exhibitor can attain. Our congratulations to Lynn.
- This year, WIEP Peoples' Choice Awards went to DPS members for both local and non-local awards. A Gold Medal for the local winner went to **Bogdan Pazera** for *Wave 1* with 30 votes. In second place was **Tom Oathout** for *Dream Girl* with 25 votes and in third place was **Bill Talarowski** for *Cloudy Day at Bow Lake*, 24 votes.



*Dave Hutton presented the 74<sup>th</sup> WIEP audio-visual program to an appreciative audience at the Newark Senior Center. Photo by June McKenney*

Winning a Gold Medal for the non-local award was DPS member, **Lilian Fulde** from Lincolnshire, IN, for *Prairie Home* with 16 votes. Second place went to **Nancy Everds**, who recently relocated to Seattle, for *Booted Racket-tail*.



*The Photographic Society of America (PSA) is the largest organization of its kind in the world, bringing together amateur and professionals in all the varied fields of photography, including color slides, nature, pictorial prints, stereo (3D), electronic photography, video/motion pictures, photojournalism, travel photography, and devotees of every process in which the worldwide membership is interested. Help from experts and educational programs is available to all members. Find out more about the PSA from these websites: [www.psa-photo.org](http://www.psa-photo.org) and [delawarephotographicsociety.org](http://delawarephotographicsociety.org).*

## Exhibit Opportunity

**T**he Helen Graham Cancer Center at Christiana Hospital, is looking for local artists to exhibit work in the lobby and/or the library. Space is available for only 5 items, no larger than 16"x20". Subject matter

should be meditative, reflective, and calming. Each exhibitor will have their work up for one month and may offer their pieces for sale. If you would like to participate, contact Dave Hutton at [dgh36@mac.com](mailto:dgh36@mac.com) or 302.731.4815.



*African Parade by Steve Berkowitz  
The judges gave this Altered Reality image a perfect "27" in the March digital competition.*

## Questions & Answers

*(Continued from page 5)*

highest ISO rating set by Auto ISO. An auxiliary flash is available to boost the flash output but negates the benefits of having a compact camera.

Overall, the Canon SD700IS Elph is an amazing little camera. Unfortunately, the SD700IS model has been discontinued. The new SD800IS has a 7.1 MP sensor and a new zoom lens. The new lens is slightly wider (a 28-110mm film camera equivalent) but according to some reports, not as sharp as the old lens. I have not compared the two cameras and cannot verify the sharpness decrease.

Send questions to [ekissa@aol.com](mailto:ekissa@aol.com)

## Photo Ops

☞ **Saturday, April 14, Mud Sale, Rawlinsville, Pa.** Mud Sales are springtime benefit auctions for volunteer fire companies held in Lancaster County Pa. Local people, both “English” and Amish, come to buy and sell everything from quilts to buggies. Rawlinsville is located south of Lancaster and east of Route 272. The new fire hall is just around the corner and down the hill from the post office.

☞ **Colonial Penn. Plantation Ridley Creek State Park, Media, Pa 19063**

**April 14 -15 – Opening Weekend** Two days of crafts and fun presented by costumed docents. Meet the Plantation family and learn first hand what life was like

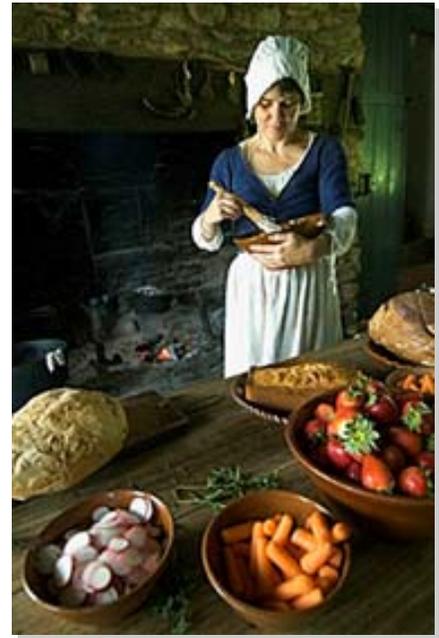
on an eighteenth century colonial farm.

**April 21, Spring Fun Day, Noon to 4 p.m.;** rain date April 22

**May 5-6, Revolutionary War Encampment;** 10-4 p.m.

For more information, contact [www.colonialplantation.org](http://www.colonialplantation.org) or 610.566.1725.

Use this opportunity to take some winning photographs for the **Friends of Ridley Creek State Park 2007 Photo Contest**. Submissions will be accepted between September 1 and November 1, 2007. This amateur contest will be judged on originality, composition, and photographs that depict the beauty of the park. Cash prizes. Complete contest rules available at [www.friendsofrcsp.org](http://www.friendsofrcsp.org).



Hearth cooking at Colonial Pennsylvania Plantation. Photo by Bob Coffey

## Horizon Workshop Summit

**S**teve Gottlieb, founder/director/instructor of Horizon Workshops, will hold the second “Annual Photography Summit” on May 4, 5, and 6, 2007 at his studio in Chesapeake City, Md. The three-day weekend program will consist of lectures by Horizon faculty and other leading photographers such as Tony Sweet (including DPS’s own Karl Leck and Bob Coffey), portfo-

lio reviews, photo competition with great prizes, field trips with Horizon faculty, and personal shooting time in scenic, historic Chesapeake City. Register by April 30 for a reduced rate.

For a detailed description of the individual sessions and bios of the presenters, visit the Horizon Web site at [Horizonworkshops.com](http://Horizonworkshops.com).



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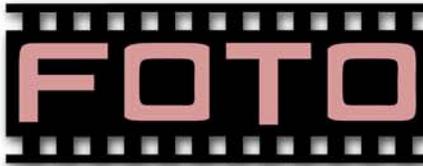
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Spring



Fling

**DELAWARE VALLEY COUNCIL OF CAMERA CLUBS**

*Proudly Presents*

**Saturday, April 28, 2007**

**9:00 AM to 4:30 PM**

**Maple Shade Municipal Complex  
200 Stiles Ave., Maple Shade NJ**



**MORNING SESSION:  
Photo Competitions**

**TEN CONTESTS:**

**Attendees may enter by 9:30 AM  
and compete for 30 medals  
awarded by three guest judges  
(YOU MUST BE PRESENT IN  
ORDER TO COMPETE)**

**COMPETITION CATEGORIES:**

**SLIDES**

General

Nature

PJ

Creative

Slide Set

**PRINTS**

Large Color

Large Monochrome

Small Color

Small Monochrome

(Small=Not to Exceed 8 1/2 x 12)

Print Set/Story

**Detailed Rules Available On The DVCCC Website:**

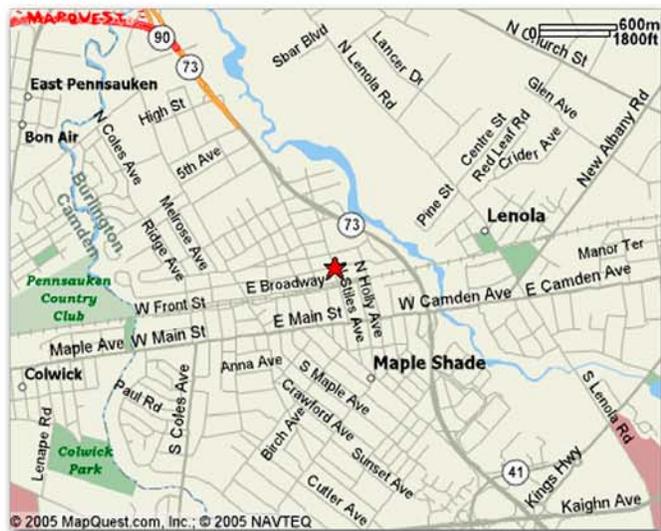
<http://www.dvccc-photo.org/>

**FREE ADMISSION**

**For PSA Members**

**And Members Of Council Clubs,**

**\$20 For All Others**



**AFTERNOON SESSION:**

**Guest Programs**

**FEATURING:**

**“Image Storm”**

**Presented By**

**Jacob Mosser III, FPSA, HonNEC**

**Program Details On the DVCCC Website**

<http://www.dvccc-photo.org>



**Photo By  
Jacob Mosser**

**A Stereo Card Display**

**Photo Travel Exhibition**

**Hand-outs For Better Photography**

**The Event is made possible by proceeds from the Annual DVCCC sponsored Photo Travel Circuit**