

# Focus

## Anaheim Camera Enthusiasts

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This month the *Journal's* occasional feature entitled *Focus*, which showcases a member or member club, turns to a club that joined the Photographic Society of America (PSA) in 2008, the **Anaheim Camera Enthusiasts** (ACES) of Garden Grove, California. The club is unique because of their *Christmas Outreach Program*.



**Gary Gionet**  
PSA Representative

Photos © Donna Judd

ACES members decided to give out free holiday portraits to needy families who picked up food at the La Habra Hills Presbyterian Church. In December 2009, eight members from the club set up two portable studios at the church and invited needy families to have their pictures taken. Former club president and PSA representative, **Gary Gionet**, tells us, "We had an overwhelming response to the free Christmas portraits. Forty-four families (over 140 individuals) were photographed in a three-hour period of time. We returned on December 13th to deliver to each family (1) 8x10 and (2) 5x7 prints. The joy in the faces of the families was like we received an early Christmas gift too. This was such a wonderful experience that we hope to continue this outreach each year. There was a suggestion to add additional dates to

include free portrait sessions for military personnel and their families."

ACES activities include monthly competitions in Prints (color and monochrome) and in Digital Images (color and monochrome) on the first Thursday of the month. The third Thursday is set aside for member programs and *Share-a-picture* (where a member brings in images to share for amusement or to preview images before entering them for competition). An annual scavenger hunt is a fun event with emphasis on creativity. The camera club sponsors various workshops throughout the year and offers many monthly outings and occasional over night field trips, as well as two yearly banquets. (*Information taken from the ACES Web site*).

Posing the shot



Proud parents



*Pleased with the results*

Currently the club has 48 members and is affiliated with the Southern California Council of Camera Clubs (S4C). The club dues are \$40 a year or \$20 for a half year. For more information on this active club, please visit their Web site at <http://www.aces-photo.org> . ■



*Gary Gionet presenting photo*



*Eager for photos*



*Sisters*



*Showing preview*