

Wendy Davis' Excellent Adventure

It was a dark and stormy night. No, no, that's wrong. It was a lovely day when two friends set out to enjoy a short canoe trip at Pyramid Lake in Jasper.

Wendy Davis, who is 92, was relaxing, possibly taking pictures, while her friend paddled. All was well until suddenly the weather changed. The wind came up and the waves came up. Soon water was filling the canoe making paddling hard, very hard.

But, our heroes persevered and made it back to the dock, exhausted but relieved. Here Wendy threw her pack onto the dock afraid that it would get soaked. Alas, her camera fell from the pack into the lake and could not be retrieved because of the wind and waves.

Eventually, the weather cleared and the camera was recovered. The camera, being a Canon and not a Pentax, was, of course, ruined. However, Wendy was thrilled to recover her images from the SD card.

For most of us that would be the end of the story - not for Wendy. She sent a letter to Canon detailing the events (see the letter below). Canon, to their credit, offered to replace the camera but Wendy had already bought a new one. Again, for most of us, that would be the end of the story - not for Wendy. She promptly convinced Canon to donate the replacement camera to IACC, which they have done.

That's where I come in. The camera, a Power Shot SX 420 IS with a retail value of \$350 arrived on my doorstep and I had no idea of what should be done with it. So, I phoned Wendy and she thought we should think of a way to give it to a member who sent in a picture of an animal or bird. We then decided to ask members to send in a picture of any bird (because Wendy loves birds) wild or domestic. We will draw for the camera from all who participate (this is not a competition). I will put together a slide show of the images and present it at our Christmas meeting.

You may not need another camera but this one would make an excellent Christmas gift for someone on your list.

Thank you Wendy, and thank you Canon for your generosity.

If you would like to participate please send an image of a bird or birds to me at:

president@imagesalberta.ca. The deadline is December 5th.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Bob Royer

Wendy's Letter

The President of Canon Canada
8000 Mississauga Rd.,
Brampton, Ontario,
L6V 5Z7

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am 92 years of age and photography gives me great pleasure. I'm the proud owner of a small Canon camera. Alas, while canoeing at Pyramid Lake in Jasper, the weather suddenly changed and the wind became very strong and the waves were filling the canoes. Fortunately, we made it to the dock where my friend who paddled, now tired, got out and one of the staff took over. I was afraid the waves would fill the boat so I threw my rucksack to safety on the dock but, alas, my camera fell out of the rucksack pocket into the lake. I was moved to the beach where I was able to get out despite my rickety knees.

The boat staff said they would contact the Jasper diving club to rescue the camera now at the bottom of the lake. However, they were unsuccessful in procuring a diver. On the first calm day, the visibility in the lake was clear and they retrieved my camera with a fish net.

The miracle is that the SD card has been developed and my photos are fine. Not so the camera. Did you know the SD card would survive being in the water for a week?

Congratulations to Canon. Now I am in the market for a new camera!

Best wishes,

Wendy Davis