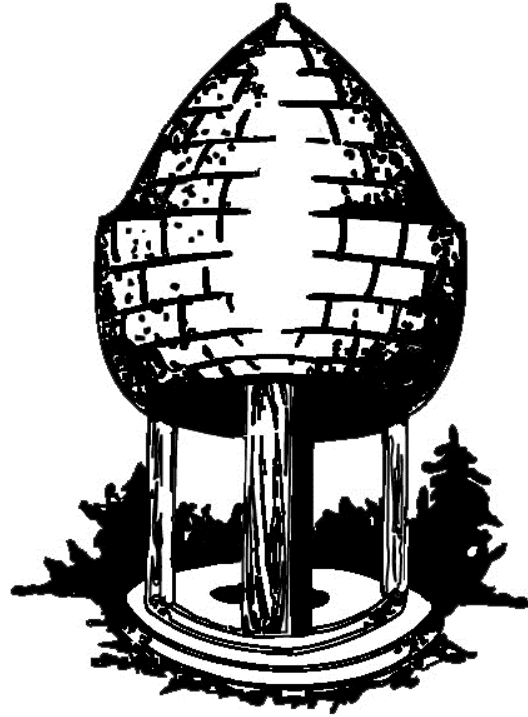


SSCC Member Handbook

2013-2014



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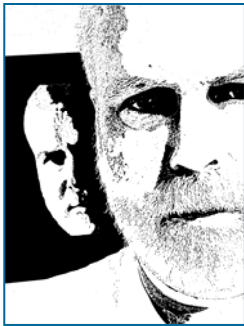
Welcome to the Silver Spring Camera Club The Curse of Knowledge

Welcome to the Silver Spring Camera Club! Every member of the Club has their own reason for joining; for some it's to learn the basics of photography, for others the discipline of producing finished work each month (that's me). Some love to win competitions and collect ribbons, while others look forward to the speakers. Whatever your reason, SSCC aims to provide a robust program each year. The club has much to offer each member no matter what their experience or interests. In turn, each of us has two responsibilities: to let the Board know what we'd like to see in the Club, and to be willing to pitch in and help.

The Silver Spring Camera Club has been around for over 60 years and has many longtime members. Because of this, there is a great deal of institutional knowledge locked up inside many different brains. The purpose of this *Member Handbook* is to pass on, each year, the traditions, rules, and expectations of the previous generations.

In education we often refer to the "Curse of Knowledge," which is the expectation that because we teachers have taught something for 20 years that our students have a basic understanding of the topic. Likewise, we as a Club suffer from this curse. Because many of us have been meeting in the Giant parking lot to go on field trips for 20 years, we assume that everyone knows where the Giant parking lot is! Of course, we also have 20 years of members who have had to hunt around for the Giant parking lot. (Hint: there's a link on the website and in this Handbook).

I hope that this Member Handbook answers many questions that you may have, or that you may not have even known to ask. If you have suggestions for additions, subtractions, or revisions to the Handbook for next year I'd love to hear them.



Hoping that you have a great year shooting,

Dave

Dave Mullen
Member

Monthly Calendar September Through May

First Thursday: Speaker Night, 7:30 pm
Second Thursday: Competition Night, 7:30 pm
Third Thursday: Education Night, 7:30 pm
Fourth Thursday: Discussion Night, 7:30 pm

Saturday, Changes Monthly: Field Trip to a local venue

Cable Release Submission Deadline: 24th of every month.

June, Date TBA: Year End Banquet

Inclement Weather Policy

If Montgomery County public schools close, SSCC is closed.

For up-to-the-minute information go to www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org

General Information

The Silver Spring Camera Club is comprised of a diverse group of individuals passionately dedicated to the pursuit of photographic excellence. We believe the best method of understanding the art of photography is through education and the sharing of ideas. For over 60 years SSCC has maintained a high standard of integrity and quality. Our reputation as the friendliest club in the metropolitan area is the basis of our success. We welcome new members of all ages and skill levels who share our interest in photography.

Meetings

The club meets on the first four Thursday nights of each month from September through May of each year. All regular meetings are held at Marvin Memorial United Methodist Church, 33 University Boulevard E., Silver Spring (Corner of University and Colesville Rd.). An annual banquet is held at a local restaurant in mid-June.

Speaker Meetings

Guest Speaker Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month from 7:30-9:30pm. A speaker, usually a professional photographer will deliver an illustrated talk on some aspect of photography.

Competitions

Competitions are held on the second Thursday of each month from 7:30-9:30pm. Depending on the number of images to be judged, competitions may end later. Images may be entered in Advanced or Novice classes, in categories of color print, monochrome print, or projected digital images.

Third Thursday Education Night

The Third Thursday meetings are "hands on" workshops in photo techniques conducted by visiting experts or advanced SSCC members. Meetings are held from 7:30-9:30pm.

Fourth Thursday Live Forum Night

The Fourth Thursday meetings are a new initiative this year, with the goal of giving members an informal "salon" type forum to bring and discuss their work. As with the other meetings, we begin at 7:30pm.

Field Trips

One field trip is held every month on a Saturday in the middle of the month throughout the club year. Most trips are to sites in and around the Washington, DC, area, although we occasionally visit locations in Baltimore, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.

Field trip members usually meet and then depart from the Giant Food parking lot at 8750 Arliss Street, Silver Spring, 20901-3905 at about 9:30 am. Please contact the Field Trip chairperson for more information.

History

The Silver Spring Camera Club began in the fall of 1950 when about 50 people attended an open meeting for anyone interested in forming a Camera Club. The stated purpose of the Club was "to provide an opportunity for people with a mutual interest in photography to share their experiences and common knowledge." The charter membership was about 60. Eleven years later in 1971 the membership stood at 150, and new applicants were placed on a waiting list. Over the years the Club had held its regular meetings in a camera store, various community center clubrooms, a recreation center, a high school, and several libraries. It usually had two meetings a month. Up until 1975, there were only two categories for the competitions: color slides and monochrome prints. In 1976, four print meetings included a color print competition. By 1983, every print competition included color prints for both novice and advanced classes. The slide competitions have remained basically the same, except that the number of allowed slide entries was reduced from three to two in 1982 due to the large number of entries. In 2008 the slide category was changed to digital projected.

The original "workshops" consisted of short 15-minute presentations given by members at the beginning of each main meeting "to provide an exchange of information and first-hand experience on photographic techniques and materials." (The name was changed to "short-shorts" in 1970; and then to "mini-workshops.") In the mid-1960s "study groups" met monthly, first for color slides and later for monochrome prints. These were joined by the New Directions Workshop in 1981, and a few years later by the Composition and Presentation Workshop. Also in the 1980s, there was a View Camera Group, a Creative Workshop, and two one-year workshops on the Fine Print and Retouching. In the 1990s, we added a workshop on Computer Imaging.

From the very beginning, the SSCC was a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA). This provided an opportunity for members to exhibit their work in the Print and Slide Circuits in the U.S. and around the world. Through the years, SSCC has arranged exhibits of members' work in a variety of

locations throughout the Washington, DC area. Club members have also participated in the competitions sponsored by Greater Washington Council of Camera Clubs and the Council of Maryland Camera Clubs.

The Club's newsletter, the *Cable Release*, began publication in October 1961 as a mimeographed newsletter with hand-drawn illustrations, which was mailed to members for 4¢. Later issues contained black-and-white photographs, and two 1979 issues feature front-page color Xerox reproductions from slides. The *Cable Release* has earned several awards from the Photographic Society of America for its quality and service to members. The first mention of the use of a computer was by editor Art Drucker, who used his trusty Commodore from 1984 to 1987. Over the years, the *Cable Release* has provided club news, photo-related articles, and members' opinions on a variety of topics. The archive of past newsletters, which is in the care of our club historian, chronicles the history of a dynamic organization that, with the active input of its members, has been constantly evolving for more than half a century. There is an index of articles from the past several years in this issue.

PSA

The Photographic Society of America (PSA) is a worldwide organization for anyone interested in photography. The society includes casual shutterbugs, serious amateurs, and professional photographers.

Founded in 1934, PSA has members in over 70 countries. Individual, Club, and Council memberships offer a wide variety of services and activities: a monthly magazine; online photo galleries, image evaluation, study groups, and courses; competitions; an annual conference; recognition; and discounts on photography related products and services.

The Silver Spring Camera Club has been a member Club of the PSA since the club was founded in 1950. For information regarding the benefits of a PSA individual membership and for PSA sponsored activities, please contact our Club PSA Representative or visit www.psa-photo.org.



Monthly Member Workflow

Dave Mullen

Beginning of the Month

-If you are planning to enter competition, finish working on 2 photographs to submit for Digital Competition. Matt 2 mono and 2 color photographs for the Print Competition.

First Thursday

-Attend the Speaker's Night to gain inspiration and learn how a professional approaches photography.

-Submit Digital Competition Entries by the Midnight Deadline.

Second Thursday

-Arrive early to sign in and turn in matted Print Competition Entries. (Hint: writing on preprinted stickers can speed up this process.)

-Listen to comments by the Judge about your photographs, and about others' photographs, to learn how to see and develop work more critically.

Third Thursday

-Based on the topic, come with questions to be answered or equipment to be used.

Fourth Thursday

-Bring a few prints to discuss with fellow members, and be prepared to offer your own feedback, critique, and questions to others.

Saturday Field Trip

-Be sure that you know the meeting time and place, which is announced in the *Cable Release* and at Thursday night meetings.

-Check out the venue on a website to see what shooting opportunities might present themselves.

-Seek out other members who shoot similar equipment to ask questions and get tips on lenses, flash, etc.

End of the Month

-See *Beginning of Month!*

Meetings and Etiquette

At all meetings there is an opportunity to make announcements about upcoming events or particular issues. Issues about rules, guidelines, and other club business or suggestions that do not relate to the particular meeting at hand should be addressed with a Board member before or after the meeting so that addressing the issue does not take time away from the speaker or competition and does not distract from the program at hand. It is important to remember that we always have guests at our meetings, and our etiquette should reflect well on our club.

On Speaker Nights and Education Nights, questions and comments should be saved until the end of the presentation unless the speaker has asked for interruptions. Our club has a wide spectrum of abilities and knowledge, which may at times go beyond what a speaker is presenting. It is important nonetheless to refrain from interrupting the presenter even if one knows a different (or even better) way of doing things. Such comments and questions should be saved until the presenter asks for questions. Members who would like to make a presentation of their own are welcome to propose an Education Night to the Third Thursday chair.

On Competition Nights, the Competition Chair should be sure the judge understands the parameters of the competition (i.e., the “Portrait” competition clearly stated “people” and not animals, bugs, flowers, or other critters). When photographs are shown, the audience is expected to remain silent, as gasps of admiration (or horror) can unduly influence a judge. Even when a photograph is amusing, the judge should have the courtesy of examining the image free of laughter and other distractions.

When visitors attend our meeting, they should be greeted warmly and invited to chat about their photographic lives. It is also considered polite to thank the person who brought the refreshments.

Should you need to leave early, please do so discretely so as not to be rude to the speaker. Please help at the end of meetings by putting chairs and tables away... many hands make light work!

Simple courtesy goes a long way toward making our meeting nights pleasant for everyone: judges, speakers, members, guests, and you!

Field Trips

Each month the Club organizes a Field Trip to a local venue to shoot together. These are *great* learning opportunities, as everyone is working “hands on” and shooting the same subjects, and everyone is more than happy to answer questions and help each other. Unlike the Thursday night meetings, there’s no speaker, judge, or time constraints to interfere with members’ conversations.

Field Trips have included the Baltimore Botanical Gardens, Johns Hopkins basketball games, the Franciscan Monastery, the Air and Space Museum at Dulles Airport, the National Building Museum, horseracing at Laurel Park, Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia, the Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show, and Great Falls.

The Field Trip Coordinator is vacant, and we’d love to have a new volunteer to announce the venue and time each month in the *Cable Release* and at the Thursday meetings. Each month, the field trip is planned, organized, and led by a different club member under the coordinator’s guidance. If you have ideas of interesting places to shoot, or if you’d like to lead one of the field trips, you can contact the coordinator to set things up.

Folks wishing to carpool generally meet in the Giant Supermarket parking lot at 8750 Arliss St, Silver Spring, MD 20901 (the corner of Flower Ave. and Arliss St.). You can find a map at this link: <http://mapq.st/MNdV3I>



SSCers at the Air and Space Museum.

The group usually heads to a local restaurant for lunch after a morning shoot, so be sure to check to find out where they’re headed.

Who to Contact

This Year's SSCC Officers and Chairs

Co-Presidents:	Angelique Raptakis
Vice President:	Ron Freudenheim <i>rlf@freudenheimgraves.com</i>
Treasurer:	Jerry Fath
Secretary:	Ted Ringger <i>tedringger@comcast.net</i>
Directors:	Carl Brandt Mike Lux Michael Koren
Cable Release Editor:	Patrick Stuart <i>pstu1219@gmail.com</i>
Competition Chair:	Doug Wolters <i>SSCCcompetitions@aol.com</i>
Digital Competition:	Jim Rogers <i>sscphotography@yahoo.com</i>
Program Chair:	Coco Simon <i>sscprograms@aol.com</i>
Education Night:	Michael Koren <i>middlingsort-ssccthirdthursday@yahoo.com</i>
Live Forum:	Dave Powell <i>dave@davidwpowell.com</i>
Membership Chair:	Laurel Sharf <i>Lsharf@verizon.net</i>
Field Trip Chair:	Vacant
Historian:	Norm Bernache
PSA Rep:	Dave Powell
Website Manager:	Dan Sisen

Visitors and prospective members are welcome. Membership is open to all persons interested in photography. For more information, contact Laurel Sharf at Lsharf@verizon.net.

The *Cable Release* is published ten times each year, September through May plus Summer, for members of the Silver Spring Camera Club. All rights are reserved, but excerpts may be reprinted without permission provided proper credit and prior notification is given. Articles are written by members of SSCC, which is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement and enjoyment of photography.

SSCC member submissions for the *Cable Release* should be directed to Patrick Stuart at pstu1219@gmail.com.

Up-to-date information can be found on the SSCC website: www.sscphotography.org and in the most recent issue of the *Cable Release*, available in the Downloads section of the website.

SSCC Meeting Location

All major monthly meetings of the Club Year are held at the Marvin Memorial United Methodist Church, 33 University Blvd E, Silver Spring, MD 20901, at Four Corners in Silver Spring.

Directions:

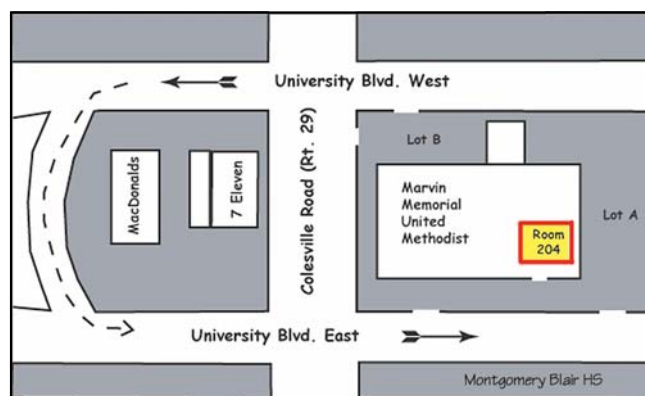
From downtown Silver Spring: Go north on Colesville Road (Rte. 29); take a right onto University Blvd. East; then left into the church parking lot A.

From College Park/Takoma Park: Take University Blvd. West. As you approach Rte. 29, move to the far left lane and turn left into church parking lot B. Or pass through Rte. 29 intersection and turn left at the loop just past McDonalds. Proceed on University Blvd. East, pass through Rte. 29 intersection, and quickly get in the far left lane and enter into church parking lot A.

From points north of Four Corners: Proceed south on Rte. 29 and turn right onto University Blvd. West, move into the far left lane and turn left at the loop just past the McDonalds. Proceed through the Rte. 29 intersection, and turn left into church parking lot A.

From Wheaton and points west of Four Corners: Go east on University Blvd. Pass through Route 29 intersection and turn left into parking lot A.

Wherever you park, walk to the southeast corner of the Church and enter Room 204.



All SSCC Meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

Thursday Meeting Directions <http://mapq.st/LDkLfK>
Field Trip Meeting Directions <http://mapq.st/MNdV3J>

2013-2014 Calendar

Every Month

- First Thursday, midnight, Digital Entry Deadline
- 24 Cable Release Article and Photo Deadline

September

- 5 Speaker Night
- 12 Competition Night: Open
- 19 Live Forum
- 26 Education Night
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

October

- 3 Speaker Night
- 10 Competition Night: Nature
- 17 Education Night
- 24 Live Forum
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

November

- 7 Speaker Night
- 14 Competition Night: Open
- 21 Education Night: Gadgets and Gifts
- 28 Thanksgiving, No Live Forum
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

December

- 5 Speaker Night
- 12 Competition Night: Street Scenes
- 19 Education Night
- 26 Live Forum
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

January

- 2 Speaker Night
- 9 Competition Night: Open
- 16 Education Night
- 24 Live Forum
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

February

- 6 Speaker Night
- 13 Competition Night: Water in any form
- 20 Education Night
- 27 Live Forum
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

March

- 6 Speaker Night
- 13 Competition Night: Open
- 20 Education Night
- 27 Live Forum
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

April

- 3 Speaker Night
- 10 Competition Night: People
- 17 Education Night
- 24 Live Forum
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

May

- 1 Speaker Night
- 8 Competition Night: Shadows/silhouettes
- 15 Education Night: They Hated It!
- 27 Live Forum
- TBA Saturday Field Trip

June

- TBA Year End Banquet and Competition



George DeBucanmane, Circle to the Top

SSCC Online Discussion Forum

Dan Sisken

SSCC has an on-line forum, moderated by Dan Sisken and Dave Mullen. Why have a Discussion Forum? An online forum for the SSCC allows club members to more fully share information about photography with each other. It allows us to continue the conversation about the various aspects of the activity we love beyond the three meetings and other events we have every month. Forum discussions have included camera gear (lenses, camera bodies, tripods, etc.), photographic techniques (exposure, composition), classes and workshops, exhibits and other events, Photoshop how-to, photography web sites, getting your photos on-line, marketing and promotion, and using social media to name just a few. In addition to the above, members can share photos with each other for discussion, feedback, helpful hints, and the like (please be especially diplomatic). We also expect that sharing through the SSCC forum will complement the *SSCC Images Flickr Group* (see below).

Platform: The forum is Google Groups, a very simple, intuitive system.

Sign-up: Email Dan Sisken at dan.sisken@gmail.com. All we need is your name and email address.

How it works: You will get an invite by email with a button to click on. Once you do that, you will be signed up to the forum. Simple. Once you are signed up, you can go to the forums at this URL: <http://groups.google.com/group/ssccameraclub>.

From there, you can read discussion threads, respond to a thread, and/or start a new thread. You can also adjust your settings so that you only receive a daily digest of posts instead of getting each one separately by email. See the *Edit my membership* link on the right. It is also possible to do most of your interacting with the forum by email.

SSCC Images Flickr Group

Michael Koren

The SSCC Picture a Day group is now known as **Silver Spring Camera Club Images**. The group will have all the images from the 2012 picture a day project and now any images any member of the club wishes to add. Old, new, whatever, just upload and share your images with others. This is an opportunity for all members to share images with the world, get feedback and have a discussion about your pictures. Too often we submit images on competition night and the judge's comment is "good picture but I like others better." The **Silver Spring Camera Club Images** Flickr group is the perfect opportunity to solicit feedback and actually get it, from others in the group and as a bonus, from others worldwide!

I encourage all members to participate in **Silver Spring Camera Club Images**. This will be a fun and interesting way to improve our photographic skills and give us the motivation to shoot more pictures. This forum is also a great way to interact and share ideas with other SSCC members by commenting on photos.

We will be using Flickr as the online area for SSCC members to post images into this Flickr group. Everyone in the world, as well as all members of the club

will be able to view the images as well as have the opportunity to leave comments. However, only approved members (you) will have the ability to upload images to the photo a day group pool. A volunteer or two along with me will act as moderators.

There are two steps necessary to join **Silver Spring Camera Club Images** group and some guidelines for using Flickr.

First, you must have a Flickr account. Joining is free and easy to do. After creating an account you will post images to your *Photostream*. This is the bucket where all your images are stored. From this bucket, images can be associated with up to 60 groups. Some or all of your images can be associated with the **Silver Spring Camera Club Images** group.

The second thing to do is find the group. The name of the group is **Silver Spring Camera Club Images**. From your main Flickr page look for a link to Groups (top of the screen) and search for the name. Once you find the group, join by clicking the appropriate button. Once you are a member of the group you will

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

have permission to post images.

Here are some guidelines for posting images and things to keep in mind about Flickr.

Images will display in the group pool in the order posted, not taken. So someone who posts at 6pm a photo taken at 3pm will display before a photo posted at 9 pm but taken at 2pm. This is not a big deal overall but you should be aware of why it may seem like some of the pictures are out of order.

Flickr offers the ability to “tag” images. This helps the Flickr search engine find your photos in a search. Tags can be any word(s) you want and you can apply as many tags as you want to an image. Examples of tags are flower, bird, iPhoneography, etc. This is a group to motivate us to shoot more pictures and to be creative and to get feedback when not submitting an image in a competition. If someone wants to see more of your images they can easily click a link from the group to your personal Photostream.

Speaking of uploading pictures to Flickr, it’s been suggested by someone much wiser than me that the upload resolution should be 768 x 578, or similar. Your dimensions will vary depending on your camera sensors aspect ratio and whether you crop your photo. But, stay in that ballpark for a few reasons. The time to upload will be reduced; a smaller file size will not take as long. The image displayed on a computer screen will look fine at this resolution. You can set your privacy controls so that Flickr has some restrictions on downloading images. Carefully read the section about Privacy & Permissions when setting up your account. All settings can be changed later. If you are worried about someone “stealing” your image then a lower resolution image is less appealing. A print at this resolution would only look good up to about 2

inches by 1 inch! Your Photostream is not a way to archive your original images. This is only a medium to display images.

Your Photostream photos can be marked as public or private. Please note images marked as private and associated with a group will be seen in that group. They will be visible in the group, but not made "public". I encourage you to read the Flickr FAQ and help sections to learn about content restrictions and the different private/public restrictions available. Also, please familiarize yourself with the Flickr terms of service and upload policies.

Summary

- Become familiar with Flickr policies
- Join Flickr (www.Flickr.com)
- Join **Silver Spring Camera Club Images** group (http://www.flickr.com/groups/sscc_picture_a_day)
- Shoot at least one picture a day
- Tag images
- Upload at 768 x 578 or similar resolution
- Visit the group as often as possible and **post comments to other's photos.**
- **HAVE FUN!**

More questions??? email me at middlingsort-ssccthirdthursday@yahoo.com

The web address is:

http://www.flickr.com/groups/sscc_picture_a_day/

The rules are simple: You must be a member of SSCC and you can upload 10 images per week.

Questions or comments?? Track me down at a meeting or email me (Middlingsort) as the administrator of the group.



My Phuong Nguyen, Final Twist

SSCC Newsletter: *The Cable Release* Photo and Article Submissions

Members of SSCC are encouraged to submit articles for the *Cable Release* on any photography related topic. Your article may run the month following submission, or may run in a later issue depending on space availability. Topics might include your member profile, a camera or lens review, a magazine review, a camera, flash, or Photoshop technique you've learned, places you've shot, and why you like (or dislike) it and how to get there, exhibits you've seen, upcoming exhibits that others might like to see, calls for entries, photolabs (online or local) and what you like/dislike about them, and classes and/or workshops you've taken. Please submit your article in Word, WordPerfect, or raw text format **without fonts or other formatting**.

Photographs likewise always welcome. Winners from the Digital Projected competition night are automatically sent to the *Cable Release*, but Print winners must be submitted by the member.

Submitted photographs should be in JPG format, no larger than 4" on the longest side, no more than 150ppi, and in sRGB format... basically the same guidelines as Digital Projected competition images.

Past articles can be referenced in the Index of this Handbook. See what others have done, and write an article yourself! All content for the *Cable Release* should be emailed to Patrick Stuart, CR Newsletter Editor, at psstu1219@gmail.com.

Membership dues each club year are due by October 31. Wondering whether or not SSCC is a good value? Here's a comparison of classes you *could* have taken in recent years, and what they would have cost.



Club membership remains a great buy! Please give your check to our treasurer or president at any club meeting.

SSCC Value					
	Silver Spring Camera Club	Glen Echo PhotoWorks	Washington School of Photography	VisArts	Sante Fe Workshops
Membership	\$45	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Portrait Lighting</i>	Included	\$140	\$180	\$190	\$1,195
<i>Critiquing</i>	Included	\$70	Not offered	\$20	Included
<i>Mat Cutting</i>	Included	\$75	\$155	Not offered	Not offered
<i>Monthly Field Trips</i>	Included	Not offered	Not offered	\$50 each	\$700-\$5,000
<i>Photoshop Basics</i>	Included	\$325	\$75	\$150	\$1,095
<i>Macro/Close up</i>	Included	Not offered	\$155	Not offered	Not offered
<i>Point & Shoot</i>	Included	\$125	Not offered	Not offered	\$1,020
<i>Book Printing</i>	Included	\$360	Not offered	Not offered	\$345
<i>Composition</i>	Included	Not offered	\$155	Not offered	Not offered
<i>Photojournalism</i>	Included	Not offered	\$350	Not offered	\$995
Total	\$45	\$1,095	\$1,070	\$360	\$4,650
Savings		\$1,050	\$1,025	\$315	\$4,605

Competition

Each month the Club has a competition night with a judge who is generally a professional photographer. Each member may enter up to 6 photographs in the following categories: 2 digital projected, 2 mono prints, and 2 color prints. There are two levels of competition: Advanced and Novice. The judge looks at each photograph and makes comments, which is a great learning experience for all photographers. After a couple of passes through all the photos, the judge will keep those they think best and award first, second,

third, and honorable mention. The number of awards depends on the number of entries in that category (Digital Projected Novice, Digital Projected Advanced, Mono Print Novice, Mono Print Advanced, Color Print Novice, Color Print Advanced). The specific competition details and category definitions can be found in the Rules section of this Handbook. What follows are some past *Cable Release* articles regarding completion.

Why Compete? A Visual Meditation

Dave Mullen

Every Sunday the Washington Post Magazine has a visual puzzle in which the reader is invited to examine two photographs and find the 12 differences between the two. Much like reading our children "Where's Waldo?" books, this exercise in visual acuity can be fun, or frustrating. I now invite you to find the differences between the two photographs in this article.

Study them hard, and see if you can find the differences. Having a tough time?



Well, the two judges who looked at this photograph had no trouble distinguishing between them... the photograph on the left was tossed during the first round of competition, while the photograph on the right won a first place ribbon. The difference? The person looking at the photograph.

All this is by way of encouraging every SSSC photographer to enter competitions and not to get discouraged. This is far from my only image to be battered by one judge, only to be admired by another. Your own reaction to photographs in the *Cable Release* newsletters will tell you all you need to know... "I like that one, I don't think much of this one."

Our friends and relatives always *love* our work. The value for me in competition is not in the winning of ribbons but in the feedback from judges.



Yes, we may need a thick skin some months, but listen to the judge and consider her or his comments.

These are not pronouncements from the Gods on high, but are the reaction of a fresh set of eyes upon our work. The comments by a judge may cause us to

tweak or completely reinterpret our photograph, or we may decide that we don't think much of what the judge had to say but like the photograph just the way it is. In either case, our eyes will have become a bit more discriminating and thoughtful in both the shooting and processing of our work.

I always leave Competition Nights having thought more carefully about my work, whether or not I have a ribbon to show for my efforts.

Isn't that one of the reasons we joined SSSC?

Silver Spring Camera Club

Official Competition Rules and Awards

I General

1. A competition is defined as a judging of photographs of a particular category made by entrants competing in a particular class.
2. Entrants must be members in good standing of SSCC meaning dues must be paid. Members from the prior year must have dues paid by October 31st.
3. The competition chairperson (or person acting in their stead) shall be responsible for the administration of these rules and may disqualify and remove any entry not conforming to these rules.
4. It is *also* the duty of the competition chairperson to:
 - a. *instruct the judge(s) in the definitions of subjects and/or techniques; and to*
 - b. *instruct the judge(s) to reject any entry not conforming to an announced subject and/or techniques.*
5. Entries for competition must originate as photographs (image-captures of objects via light sensitivity) made by the entrant on photographic emulsion or captured digitally. Images may be altered, either electronically or otherwise, by the maker and artwork or computer graphics created by the maker may be incorporated, if the photographic content predominates.

II Categories

1. There shall be three categories of competition:
Monochrome Prints, Color Prints, and
Projected Images (Slides or Digital).
2. Entries in all categories must have been photographed by the entrant.
3. Monochrome and color prints (Novice and Advanced class)—
Initial film processing of negatives, slides, or alternative media may be done by the entrant or a commercial imaging service. All subsequent custom techniques, including image retouching or manipulation, *must be done by the entrant, and printing must be done by, or under the direction of, the entrant.*
4. **Projected Images** – Images captured on film may be processed and scanned by any commercial lab. Any further steps in the production of an entry must be done under the direction of the entrant. Any image retouching or manipulation of digital images must be done by the entrant.
5. Print entries must be securely attached to boards of a size acceptable for the club's print viewing box (approx. 24" high); total print area may not exceed 16" x 20". The title and entrant's name must appear only on the back; there shall be no hooks, substances or protruding objects on the mount board which might scratch, mar, or otherwise damage other entries; and the top of the print shall be clearly indicated by an upward arrow on the back of the mount board. A sequence of related prints, mounted on one board, will be considered as a single entry. For both classes the combined picture area of this sequence may not exceed 16" x 20". Framing is prohibited.
6. Slides must be in 2"x 2" mounts suitable for projection in the Club's projector. The slide shall be marked with a clearly visible and distinct spot located in the lower left-hand corner of the mount on the side facing the viewer when the hand-held slide is viewed in its correct orientation. The name of the entrant and the title of the slide must be on the reverse side of the mount.
7. *Digital images shall conform to the technical specifications provided by the Competition Chairperson and published in each issue of the Cable Release.*

III Classes

1. Each category of competition (Monochrome Prints, Color Prints, and Projected Images) shall have two classes: Novice and Advanced.
2. *Except as noted later in this section*, a member's class standing in one category shall have no bearing on that member's standing in any other category.
3. Except as noted later in this paragraph, a member may begin competing in any class of any category and may voluntarily move to the next higher class at any time. However, a member who has entered in a higher class may not thereafter enter in a lower class. Accidental entry (*by an entrant; such as recording in the wrong competition register*) into a higher class will not justify reverting to a lower class. **It is the member's responsibility to insure that his/her entries are properly recorded and entered into the correct competition class.**
4. Whenever there are insufficient entries to hold a Novice competition, a Novice member may choose to enter images in the Advanced class competition for that competition without affecting his/her status in the Novice class. Any points awarded the Novice member in that higher class competition will be tallied as Novice class points.
5. Point scores will be recorded and tallied by the Chairperson of the Competition Committee. A Novice entrant who has accumulated 36 points in a given category over any period, in SSCC monthly competitions, must immediately move to the Advanced class.
6. *A member's points total in the Projected Image category shall consist of the combined total of all points accumulated in both Slides and Digital club competitions and will be used to determine Novice or Advanced class.*
7. After receiving the SSCC Master of Photography Award, a member must thereafter compete in the Advanced class in all categories. Since the Master of Photography Award is presented at the year-end banquet, this move to the Advanced class becomes effective in the club year following the year in which the 300 points total is achieved.

IV Monthly Competitions

1. Projected Image and Monochrome and Color Print competitions will be held each month during a regular club meeting, September through May, as decided by the Board of Directors, except that one month may be designated for other purposes. *A monthly Projected Image competition shall be either all Slides or all Digital (never both).*
2. The maximum number of entries a member may submit in each category will be two.
3. To conduct a Novice competition, there must be at least four entries by at least three entrants. To conduct an Advanced competition, there must be a minimum of nine entries.
4. Prior to competition, each entrant must ensure that his/her name and the title of each of their entries are recorded in the appropriate competition register as maintained by the Chairperson of the Competition Committee. *Proper submission of digital images will generate automatic registration.* "Untitled" shall not be an acceptable title. An advanced class image entered into a lower class will be disqualified. Repeated violations of this rule may result in additional penalties, as decided by the Board of Directors.
5. No entry that has won an award in an SSCC monthly competition may be re-entered in *the same category*, and no entry may be entered in more than three monthly competitions in *the same category*.

Entry of an image into one category (Monochrome Prints, Color Prints, or *Projected Images*) shall have no bearing on its eligibility for entry into another category. Anyone submitting an entry more than three times will, on the first occurrence, be given a warning. Repeated violations of this rule may result in penalties, as decided by the Board of Directors.

6. **Awards** will be presented in each competition based on the total number of entries in each class. Awards will be valued as:

1st Place - 6 points.

2nd Place - 4 points

3rd Place - 2 points

HM - 1 point

The number of HM's awarded in each category will be based on 10% of the total entries in each category rounded up from odd multiples of five. No HM's will be awarded in competitions with fewer than 12 entries, no 3rd place with fewer than 9 entries and no 2nd place with fewer than 6 entries.

7. The Board of Directors may assign not more than five of the monthly competitions to a defined subject and/or technique. All other competitions shall be open. Assigned topic competitions for the following club year shall be scheduled at the April Board Meeting and announced in the May Cable Release.

8. All October competitions (i.e., projected images and prints) shall always be Nature in all classes and categories and held on the same meeting night. The Joyce Bayley Award shall be presented to the "Best of Show" as determined by the Judge. Nature is defined as "Pictures that portray different kinds of various aspects of natural plant and animal life, that illustrates the natural features of land and sea or that reveal certain natural phenomena, such as cloud formations, light refractions (sunsets, auroras etc.), precipitation, frost, fire, but which do not show the "hand of man", such as buildings, fences, beer cans etc. Domestic plants or animals may be included provided they do not show the "hand of man". Any image that has won the Joyce Bayley Award is ineligible for future entry in the Joyce Bayley nature competition in another (projected image or print) category.

9. If a competition is not held, for any reason, it may be re-scheduled at the discretion of the President.

V Body of Work Competition

1. The Board of Directors may assign not more than one projection and one print competition each year as a Body of Work Competition. For these competitions, there shall be no class distinction. Sets of images (intended to tell a story, make a statement, or support a theme) will be presented to the judge as a group. Individual images which have won in prior monthly or inter-club competitions are eligible for inclusion as part of a set, but no image which has been entered in a prior Body of Work Competition is eligible. Entry of an image into this competition as part of a set shall have no bearing on its eligibility for entry into monthly or inter-club competitions. Makers shall assign titles to each set entered, not to each individual image.

2. To conduct a Body of Work competition, there must be at least four entries by at least three entrants. No HM's will be awarded in competitions with fewer than 12 entries, no 3rd place with fewer than 9 entries and no 2nd place with fewer than 6 entries.

3. **Print Competition** – Each member may enter up to 2 sets consisting of 3 to 5 images in both the Monochrome Print and the Color Print Body of Work competitions. Images should be individually mounted. However, multiple images mounted on one board are allowed and will be considered a single image.

4. **Projected Image Competition** – Each member may enter up to 2 sets, each consisting of 3 or 4 images in the Projected Image Body of Work Competition.

VI Year-End Competitions

1. Each member may enter a maximum of five images per category in the year-end competition.

2. Year-end competitions have the same rules as monthly competitions with respect to categories and classes.

3. All entries in year-end competitions must have been entered in a monthly competition or as an SSCC entry in an inter-club competition during the preceding nine months. However, entries that have won an award in a previous SSCC year-end competition are ineligible.

4. No points will be considered or awarded.

5. A member who has entered in both the Novice and Advanced Class of a category during the preceding year may elect to enter either the Novice or the Advanced class (but not both) for the year-end competition. If the member enters the Advanced class, he or she may submit any entry previously entered regardless of class. However, if he or she enters the Novice class, he or she may submit only entries previously entered in the Novice class.

6. Awards will be distributed on the following basis: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and a variable number of HM's equal to 10% of the total entries in that competition, rounded up from odd multiples of five.

7. The Len Tuchin Award will be presented to the maker of the image that in the opinion of the judges of the year-end competition, is considered to be the "Best of Show".

VII Photographer of the Year Awards

1. For each class within each competition category a Photographer of the Year Award shall be presented at the year-end banquet.

2. The awards shall be determined on the basis of points earned during the preceding club year. The Photographer of the Year award shall not be presented in a class/category if no member has earned at least a total of 15 points in that class/category.

3. Point totals shall be calculated as follows:

a. Novice Class

(1) All points earned in SSCC monthly competitions for the Novice class and the Advanced class of the same category plus . . .

(2) All points earned as an SSCC entrant in Board approved Inter-club competitions in equivalent categories, any class.

b. Advanced Class

(1) All points earned in SSCC monthly competitions for the Advanced class and 1/2 of all points earned in the Novice class of the same category plus . . .

(2) All points earned as an SSCC entrant in Board approved inter-club competitions in equivalent categories, any class.

4. In the event of a tie for Photographer of the Year, the winners will be determined as follows: first tie-breaker - most 1st place awards; 2nd tie-breaker - most 2nd place awards; 3rd tie-breaker - most 3rd place awards; 4th tie breaker – most honorable mention awards. If a tie remains, there will be co-winners.

5. **Inter-Club** awards will earn points towards the SSCC Photographer of the Year award as follows:

1st place – 7 points

2nd place – 5 points

3rd place – 3 points

HM – 2 points

However, in competitions where the HM awards exceed 10% of the total competition entries, an HM will only earn 1 point. Entries accepted for club representation in competitions in which SSCC conducts preliminary qualification judging will receive 1 acceptance point each. Acceptance points are separate from, and in addition to, any points that may be earned in the inter-club competition.

VIII Photographic Excellence Awards

1. **SSCC Star Merit Award:** For each 50 points scored in monthly club and inter-club competitions, total accumulation in all classes and categories over any period of time while a member in good standing of SSCC, a member shall be awarded a Star Merit Award. Stars shall be awarded up to a maximum of five (for a 250 point accumulation).

2. **SSCC Master of Photography Award:** Upon accumulating 300 total points in the SSCC Star Award System, an SSCC member shall be awarded an SSCC Master of Photography plaque.

3. **SSCC Grand Master of Photography Award:** Upon accumulating 600 total points in the SSCC Star Award System, a member shall be awarded the SSCC Grand Master of Photography plaque.

4. **SSCC Hall of Fame Award:** Upon accumulating 1200 total points in the SSCC Star Award System, a member shall be awarded the SSCC Hall of Fame plaque.

5. The Chairperson of the Competition Committee and/or the Historian shall maintain records necessary for the administration of Photographic Excellence awards.

6. Points for the Photographic Excellence awards shall be determined on the same basis as Photographer of the Year (see Section VII).

IX Service Award

A Service Award may be awarded to the SSCC member who the Executive Council determines has made outstanding contributions to further the interests of the Club and its membership. The Executive Council shall make this determination by secret ballot no earlier than May 1st of the award year. The member must receive a majority of the votes cast; if no majority is reached, there may be up to two additional ballots in an effort to achieve one. If no majority is reached after the third ballot, there shall be no award for that year.

Master file held by – Stan Klem
"SSCC Comp Rules" (07/00)
Revised (04/02)
Revised (04/03)
Revised (Sep/2004)
Revised (Apr/2007)
Revised (Summer/08)
Revised (August/09)



Basketball Field Trip, Bob Catlett



Basketball Field Trip, Dave Mullen

2013 –2014 Competition Topics and Definitions

Doug Wolters, Competition Chair

September: Open Any subject matter, theme, and technique are acceptable. The principal emphasis should be on photography and should show the personal interpretation of the photographer.

October: Nature Acceptable entries are photographs that portray various aspects of natural plant and animal life; that illustrate the natural features of land, sea, and sky; or that reveal natural phenomena. No image may show any human intervention. Domestic plants (e.g., in a botanical garden) or animals (including zoo animals) may be included provided they do not show any human intervention (e.g., collars or ear tags, gates, walls, paths, signage).

November: Open

December: Street Scenes Images in this category reflect the built environment and organized society. They may show cities or villages, with or without their inhabitants, in this country or abroad. The photographic approach may be photojournalism, informal “street photography,” people shots, animal shots, architecture and cityscapes, unexpected views, or any other subject and technique that portray the “spirit of place.”

January: Open

February: Water in any of its forms

Entries under this topic show water in the broadest possible sense. They depict rain,

mist, fog, frost, snow, ice, clouds, glaciers, waterfalls, oceans, puddles, city fountains, oases, or ice cubes in a glass, etc. Any subject and technique are acceptable as long as the principal emphasis is on the type of water (e.g., the rapids and not the kayaker, the fountain and not the children playing in it).

March: Open

April – People but not formal portraits

This topic encourages the photographer to explore not only people’s faces but also the hands and other symbols of the subject’s essence (e.g., the hands and gloves of a construction worker, a violinist’s hand holding a bow or a baseball player holding a bat, the feet of a ballet dancer, etc.). Images may portray one person or a close group of people. The primary emphasis should be on the people (e.g., on the raised hands of several basketball players, but not on the basketball). Formal portraits, indoors or outdoors, are not permissible, but a “staged candid” is acceptable.

May: Shadows and/or silhouettes

Images submitted under this topic may concentrate either on shadows or on silhouettes, or, where appropriate, on both. Any subject matter and any technique are acceptable. It is permissible to show the shadow of an object without showing the object itself (e.g., the shadow of an ornate railing without showing the railing).



Laurel Park Field Trip, Bob Catlett

Frequently Asked Questions About the Rules

Members are invited to email any questions about the rules to the *Cable Release* editor (pstul219@gmail.com) who will forward them to the "Rules Guy." Questions and answers appear in the newsletter for the edification of all members. Here are the questions that were asked last year.

=====

Dear Rules Guy,

I took this lovely snapshot at the zoo. I showed it to one of my fellow club members and I told him I'd like it to be more dramatic and in black and white. He opened it in Photoshop and came up with the second version, of which I approve. Can I enter this photo in an SSCC competition?



New Member

Dear New Member,

Please have your friend contact Michael Koren about volunteering to teach Photoshop techniques at a future "Education Night." I'm sure many club members would be interested in learning how the changes were made.

However, the new version **cannot** be entered in an SSCC competition.

"Silver Spring Camera Club Competition Rules and Awards (August 2009)" clearly state, "Any image retouching or manipulation of digital images must be done by the entrant." That includes images shot on film and later scanned.

Rules Guy

=====

Dear Rules Guy,

I'm a new member of the club and really enjoy the speakers and competitions. I can't resist commenting aloud (sometimes, to no one in particular) in reaction to funny, unusual or particularly outstanding images. To me, that seems like a normal/natural reaction. Long-time members, even club officers, comment sometimes. What can we do

to stop whoever the "old grouch" is who frequently tries to "shhh" everyone? He/she even does that after the judge asks a question. Why can't we simply enjoy the photography without being hassled to keep quiet?

Rowdy

Dear Rowdy,

That is an understandable question from someone unfamiliar with the etiquette of photo contests. Even the most conscientious judges are human and, therefore, vulnerable to outside influences, no matter how subtle. The club's goal is to eliminate as many "outside" stimuli, both physical (sight and sound) and psychological, as possible. That's why we aren't allowed to even answer a judge's questions.

That even means that a competitor should refrain from discussing ALL his/her entries with the judge until ALL CATEGORIES of judging are completed. Experienced photographers (i.e. judges) can often see subtle similarities/traits in other photographers' work; sometimes in very different images. That subtle, subconscious influence might tilt the "level playing field."

Sometimes, even "old grouches" have valid intentions!

The Rules Guy

=====

Dear Rules Guy,

All this talk about how many times a print has been entered into competition, whether it has won, how many points I've earned, etc. is bewildering. My memory isn't what it used to be. I simply can't remember all that stuff.

Where are my glasses?

Dear Glasses,

Nobody's memory is what it used to be, especially the Rules Guy's! That's why record keeping is important. Your records don't need to be elaborate; a simple list

in a notebook, a Word document, a spreadsheet, whatever . . . anything that works for you.

If you need a summary of your previous entries, contact Norm Bernache, the club Historian. He maintains a database of all competition entries. He will provide your data as a report or, if you prefer, in a spreadsheet format.

I should also point out that experienced photographers need not wait until 36 points have been earned in a category before moving up to Advanced. In fact, they are encouraged to voluntarily move to Advanced, in the spirit of fair competition.

Rules Guy

(Editor's Note: As a champion of Attention Deficit crowd, I find it useful to mark the month and award on the back of my prints, and to likewise rename my digital files, on those rare occasions when they receive an award.)

=====

Dear Rules Guy's Buddy,

I keep hearing about the "rules," but I've never seen them. Who has them and how can I see them for myself?

Doubting Thomas

Dear Tom,

You can, and should, see the rules for yourself. If every member took twenty minutes to familiarize themselves with the competition rules then there would be far less frustration on Competition Night. The rules are avail-

able to all members, and to the general public, on the club website: sccphotography.org. On the top bar, click "Organization" then "Downloads." Section 3 is "Competition Info" and the first link is the rules, which were last revised in August 2009. Click on this link and a PDF file will open in your browser. You can then save the rules on your own computer where they'll always be available to you when you have a question. Here's the direct, if non-intuitive, link: <http://sccphotography.org/Downloads/646f64a2-fca8-45c8-a96c-ed187b775b09>

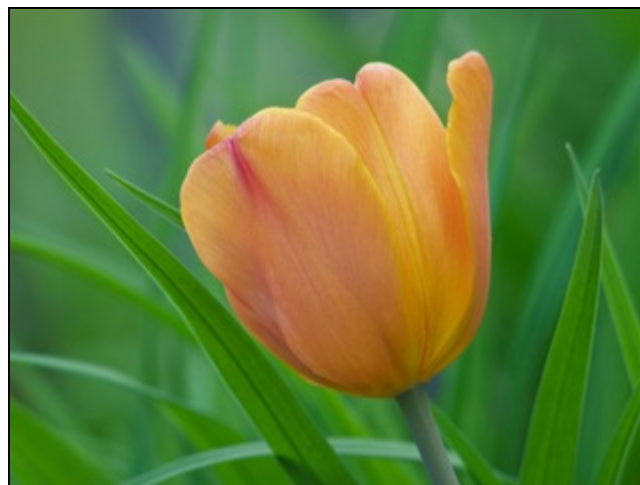
So what's in these rules that I should know?

You should know, or at least be familiar with, everything in the rules. For example, one question that often comes up is who can manipulate and print an image. The rules are pretty clear about this...

Section I. General... Item 5... *Images may be altered, either electronically or otherwise, by the maker and artwork or computer graphics created by the maker may be incorporated, if the photographic content predominates.*

And in Section II. Categories, Item 3... *Initial film processing of negatives, slides, or alternative media may be done by the entrant or a commercial imaging service. All subsequent custom techniques, including image retouching or manipulation, must be done by the entrant.*

Pretty clear, isn't it? The entrant must have done all the work on the photograph prior to it being printed. You can't have someone else "touch it up" when they print it, as that clearly violates the rules, which state that all manipulation and retouching must be done by the entrant.



Judy Saunders, Peachy Keen

A Common Sense Guide to Photo Competition

PSA Journal, May, 1991 by Marty Feins

Why do we enter photographs in competitions? Are we looking for awards, recognition and the excitement of being a winner? If you answered yes to any of the above questions, you are missing the whole purpose as to why your club sets up competitions and judging.

The purpose of a competition is primarily to see if your photography is improving, to learn how the judge thinks you can improve your particular photograph and to observe and learn from the comments he or she gives fellow photographers in the competition. Remember, a competition is primarily a learning experience.

Good photography is not too hard to achieve, great photography, however, takes a lot more effort. If you want to be a great photographer, you must ask yourself, "Am I willing to really work at it and learn how to take better pictures?" If your answer is "yes" then there is no better time to start learning how to take a better picture than right now. You should understand something very important, when you submit a photograph to a judging: you are saying to the judge essentially, "this is my best; I can do no better." Is this a truism, though? It is not if you honestly believe it can be improved. Yes, it is nice to win awards and to gain recognition for your work, but is it not nicer to improve?

When your print is critiqued, try to remake, crop, tint or redo your photograph in the style suggested by the judge. After you have accomplished this compare both photographs and see if you have had a learning experience. If you have, then competition is for you. It is not even necessary to wait for a judging competition. Aren't there already members in your own club whom you respect for their knowledge and ability? Take advantage of their wisdom. You would be surprised how quickly they would offer you help and guidance and gladly share their skills.

Here are some things to look for in your photographic entries. First of all show **Impact**. Grab the viewer's attention, stop him, make him go "ah" and make every effort to avoid distracting elements which are in front, to the side, or behind the main subject.

Next, use **Creativity**. Make the viewer think and make him wonder how you achieved your photographic image. Remember, photography is a recognized art,

be an artist, Use **Artistic Ability**. Show good use of balance, composition, color, cropping, and logical use of space. Use the full scale of the film to achieve the proper contrast. If you send your prints to a commercial lab, use a good one; one which will crop and give your print the color effect you want. Make the lab technician redo your print until it is done the way you would like it if you were printing it. Poor print quality from a lab is no excuse to a judge. It will cost you points.

Know your picture's **Center of Interest**. Find an eye catching point, then lead the viewer's eye throughout the picture, hold his attention and exclude any lines that might lead the viewer's eye out of the photograph.

Lighting, whether natural or manmade, should look realistic. Avoid the snapshot camera flash look. Make light work for you. Use reflectors. Even a handheld newspaper can fill-in shadow details.

Know and make good use of State of the Art **Techniques**. Tools like the montage, sandwich, dyes or pencil or whatever other skills you have mastered can greatly improve your picture. However, use these techniques discreetly. Use them only if they help the photograph, not just to show you know how to do them. Also make the viewer wonder how you achieved your photo image.

Your choice of **Subject Matter** should be appealing, arouse emotion and set a mood. Your subject should be shown to its greatest advantage, with nothing to disconcert the feeling you want. Your picture should also Make A Statement. It should tell a story, give a message or make the viewer think propaganda .

Last, but not least: **Presentation**. Use proper mounting, clean cut masks, and the proper type of mounting board. Use step-off mounting on prints, judicious use of spotting and print correction, clean boards and so on. Use good judgment and be proud of what you do by your efforts. Everything you do poorly in presentation of your work will cost you points. A great photograph presented carelessly will cost you. Remember photography is a recognized art, be an artist.

(Continued on page 19)

(Continued from page 18)

When photographing for assignment competitions study the competition's idea thoroughly. In photographing People Portraits if the subject is a portrait (a person), they should be either pleasant to look at (photogenic) or unusually interesting (character study). If the subject is of an active sport, the subject must be doing his or her sport activity. When photographing Animals, use nice looking healthy animals, (creatures, bugs, etc.), but have them doing more than just looking at the camera. As for capturing Abstracts on film, use strong designs, patterns, textures, have a definite point of interest and keep the viewer's eyes into the photograph.

All of the above, however, should just be considered suggestions. Use *your* imagination, look and listen, but most of all work at it and make your next entry a "10."

Competition Levels, Categories and Points

Novice Projected
Novice Mono Prints
Novice Color Prints

Advanced Projected
Advanced Mono Prints
Advanced Color Prints

1st Place - 6 points.

2nd Place - 4 points

3rd Place - 2 points

Honorable Mention - 1 point

Points count toward moving from Novice Level to Advanced Level, and toward end-of-year awards. A Novice earning 36 points in a class must move to Advanced Level in that class.

Please familiarize yourself with the Competition Rules and Awards section in this Handbook.



Laurel Park Field Trip, Bob Catlett

Judging Criteria

Mary O'Neill, past SSCC competition judge

I evaluate images based on artistic impact, visual design, and craftsmanship. An evaluation of artistic impact would take into account the feelings/emotions generated by the image, the photographers creativity in expressing the subject matter, and the ability of the photographer to "see" and make an image that's extraordinary. Does the image create an emotional response, tell a story, or create a mood? Does the photograph reveal a "new" way of looking at the subject?

An evaluation of visual design would include assessing the photographers composition and use of the picture space, his/her use of interesting camera angles, as well as his/her use of the elements of visual design (shapes, rhythm, texture, proportion, etc.) in order to communicate visually.

In order to evaluate craftsmanship, I would take into consideration whether or not the image had the appropriate depth of field, lighting, exposure, balance, and separation, as well as the presentation of the image (i.e., was the slide dust-free, the print appropriately matted, etc.). I would also discuss the presence or absence of distracting elements such as background and contrast range, or elements that inappropriately draw the eye.

If all technical criteria were equal, I believe "artistic impact" would determine the final outcome of the competition. Does the image have "soul"—does the photograph have the ability to touch the viewer, to make an impression, and to hold interest over time?

SSCC Digital Competition Specifications

By virtue of submitting a digital image for competition, the entrant grants permission for the image file to be retained by SSCC for reproduction in any of its publications, including the newsletter (Cable Release), Yearbook, and/or posting on its Web site, unless a written request to withhold the image is sent to the appropriate editor. The member retains all rights to the image, including copyright. Digital competition submissions will be saved for possible entry into the Year End competition, **after which they will be deleted.**

- * Monthly Images per member 2 (max)
- * File Format JPG
- * Image Dimensions
1024 pixels wide (max) . . see Note below
768 pixels high (max) . . . see Note below
- * Color Space sRGB (suggested)
- * File Size 500 KB (max)
- * File Name: **Class ~Maker's Name~Image Title.jpg** (Example: **Nov~Tom Jones~Washington Landscape.jpg**)
The tilde ~ character separates the 3 subfields of the file name
Class – Nov or Adv (capitalization not required)
Maker's Name – spaces are allowed in name (Please use the *same* name throughout the year to aid recordkeeping.)
Image Title – spaces are allowed between words in the title.

DO NOT embed commas (,) or tildes (~) in any of the File Name subfields

Submissions will be accepted by **e-mail only**; no other method will be accepted. Please use a meaningful e-mail subject, such as “SSCC Oct 2010 Images”.

Please E-mail all of your images at **the same time** to: SSCCphotography@Yahoo.com and do not resubmit without first consulting with the coordinator.

Non-compliant submissions are subject to possible rejection without consultation with or notice to the submitter (although, if possible, problem resolution will be attempted).

Deadline: Midnight **1-week before competition** (SSCC's Speaker meeting night)

This will be the previous **Thursday** night (for regular monthly competitions).

Questions: Jim Rogers SSCCphotography@Yahoo.com

Signing-in on the Projected Image register will NOT be required on the night of competition.

Note: If for artistic reasons you wish your image to be presented at a size smaller than full screen, position your picture within a 1024 pixels wide x 768 pixels high **black** background image. In any event the submitted image should be constrained to fit within a box that is 1024 pixels wide by 768 pixels high.



Koller, Crepuscular Light

Sizing Images for Digital Competition in Photoshop CS3

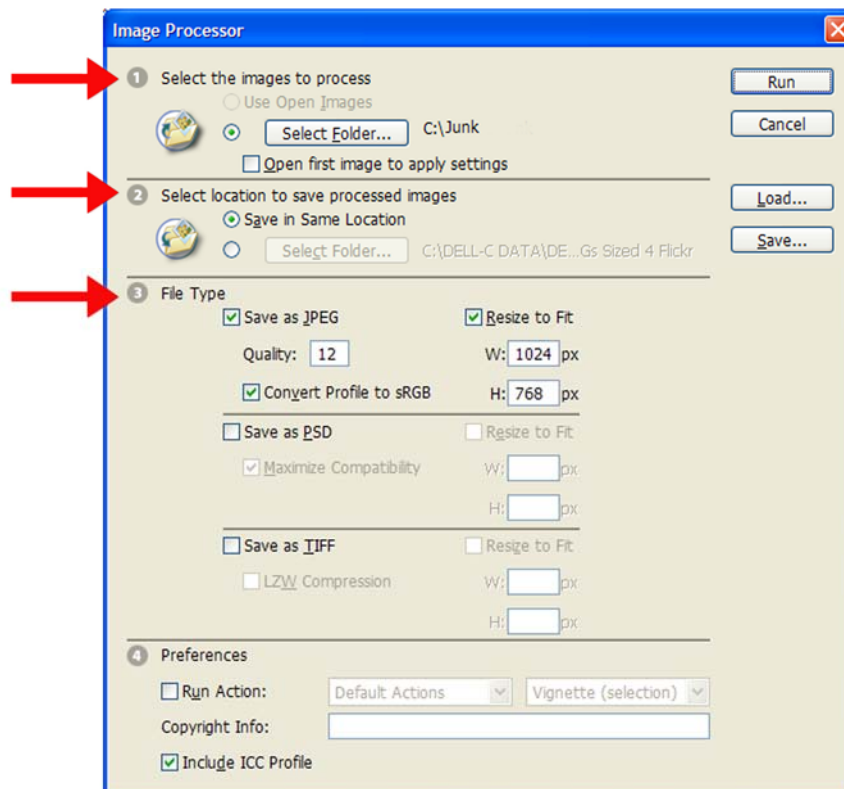
Jim Rogers

This Photoshop CS3 procedure will create properly sized copies in JPG format, with the correct color profile, to meet SSCC's digital competition specifications. Copies will be created for all images processed, thus the original image format (PSD, TIF, or JPG) does not matter.

After you've finished all modifications/manipulations in Photoshop, proceed as follows:

- A. Place ALL competition files to be resized in a separate folder--file type (psd, jpg, tiff) doesn't matter.
- B. Click "File" in Photoshop menu (upper left) and Select "Scripts" and then "Image Processor."
- C. In the Image Processor drop-down menu, under the four sections:
 1. Click "Select Folder" and choose your competition files folder;
 2. Select a location for your processed images or select "Save in Same Location*" button;
 3. In "File Type" – Select all three check boxes:
 - ♣ Save as JPEG and choose a Quality (e.g. 12);
 - ♣ Convert Profile to sRGB; and
 - ♣ Resize to Fit: and key in W=1024, H=768
 4. Select: Include ICC Profile

* "Save in Same Location" creates a folder (named JPG) in the folder containing the images being processed.



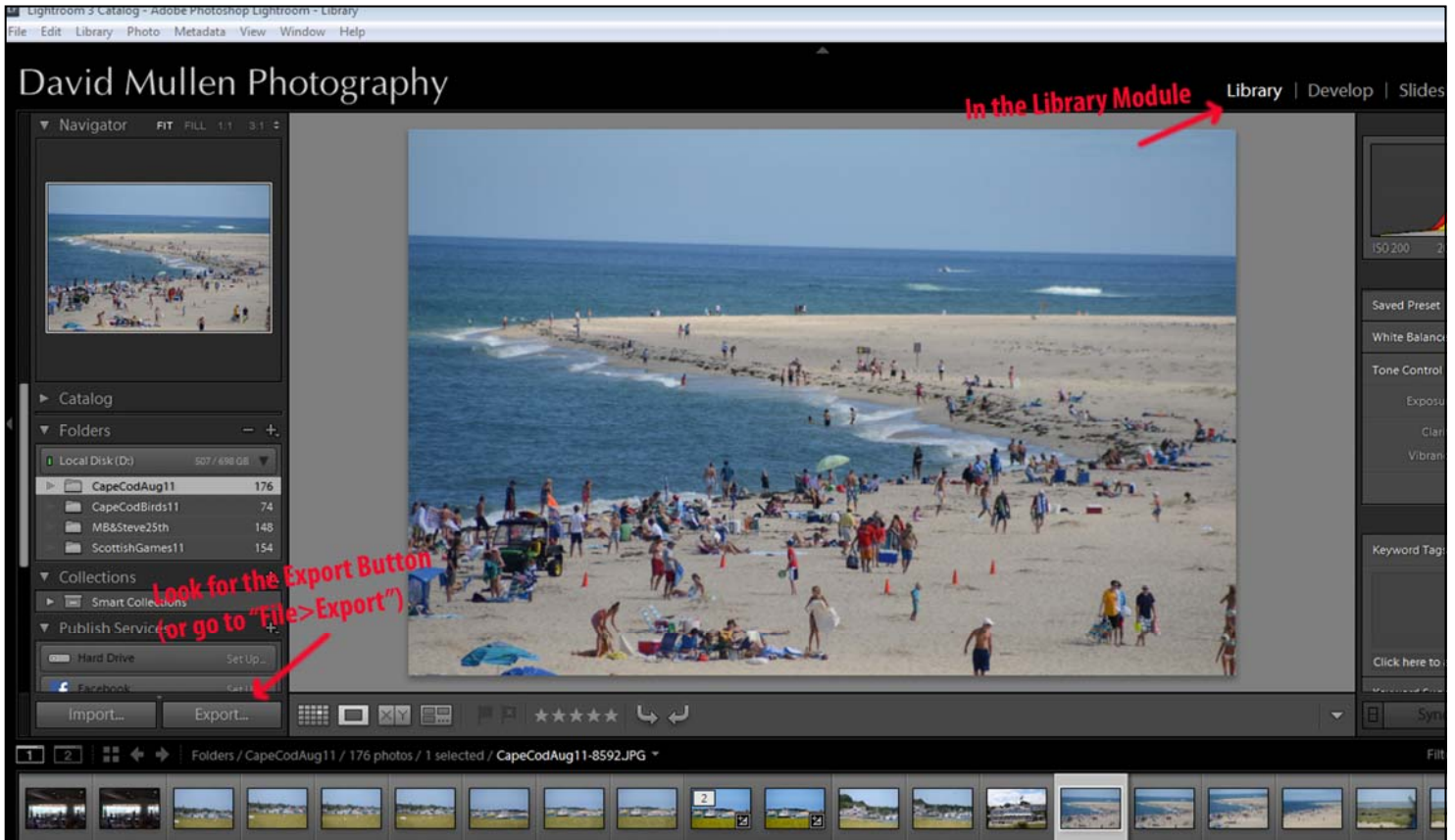
Be sure that in "File Type" you've set, JPEG, Quality, sRGB, W=1024, H=768

I always put all the images to be sized into the same folder and select "Save in Same Location". This creates a folder (named JPG) in the folder containing the images being processed, making organization much easier.

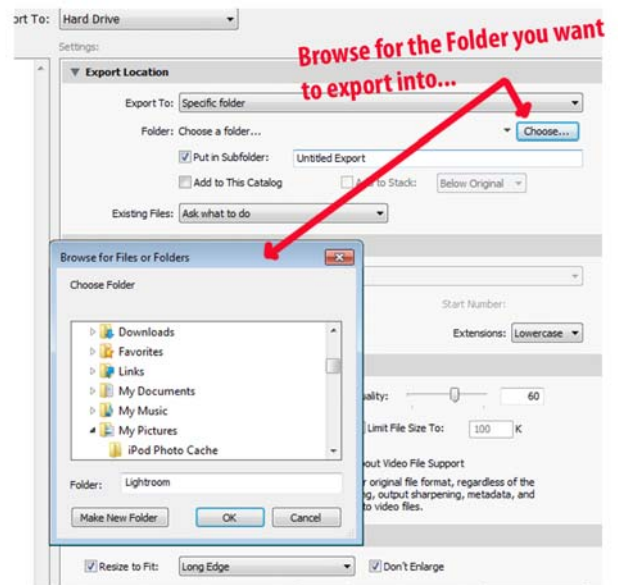
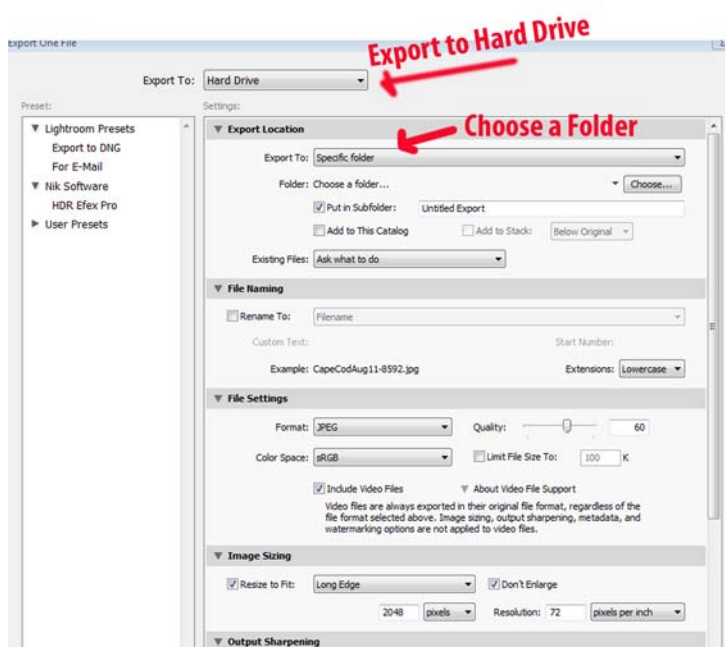
I also use this method to create smaller files (which speeds processing) to use as I'm working on digital slide shows using ProShow Gold. It should work well whenever you need smaller files.

Using Lightroom to Export Images for Digital Competition

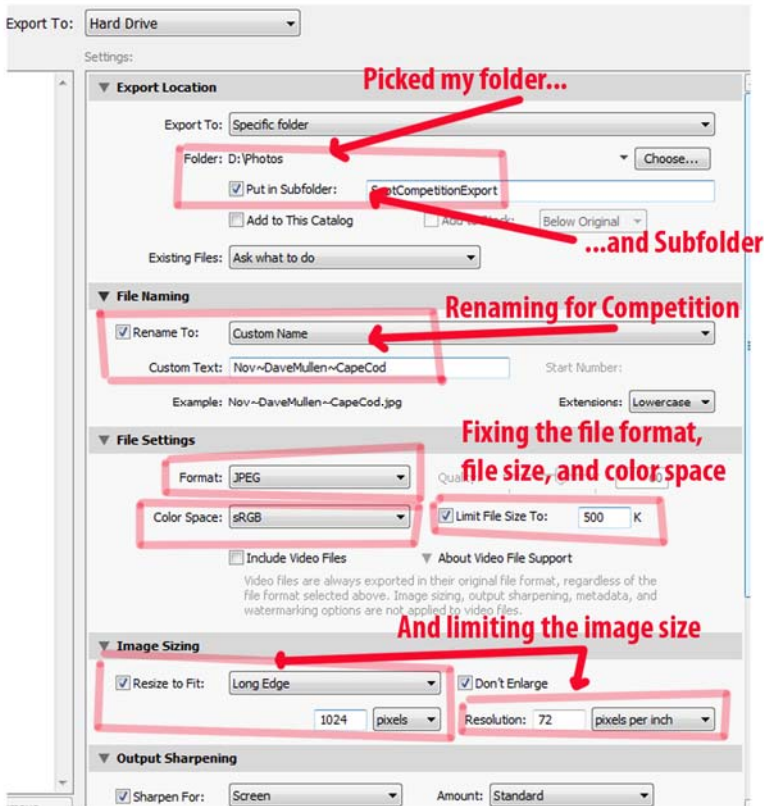
Dave Mullen



In the “Library” module of Lightroom, choose a photo and click on the “Export” button in the lower left section of the screen.



You may have to Browse around a bit to find the folder into which you wish to export, or you may create a new folder.



Lots to do here! You've picked the folder, and maybe created a subfolder.

You've renamed for competition as per the specs for Digital Competition. (Class~Name~Title)

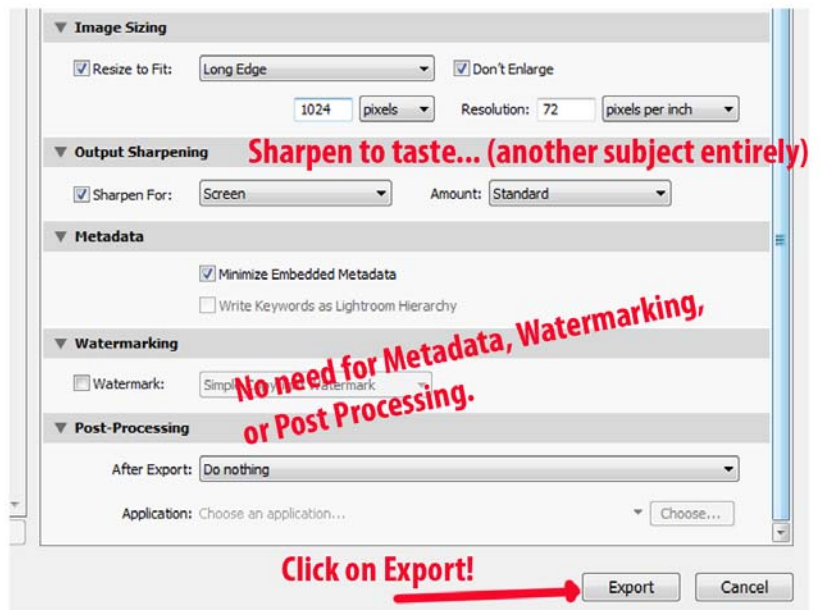
You've fixed the format (JPG), the color space (sRGB), and the file size (500 KB).

And you've sized the photograph according to the specs (1024 pixels maximum width if landscape orientation, 768 pixels maximum height if portrait orientation). While we often work at and print at 300 pixels per inch, 72 pixels per inch is all that computer screens and projectors show, so having a higher resolution just increases JPG compression and wastes space.

Then the final touches... sharpening, metadata, etc.

Click on Export. Find the file in the folder into which you exported, attach it to an email with the subject line as per the specs, and send it to ssccphotography@yahoo.com.

Finally, show up for competition night and hear the judge's comments!



Competition Entry Formats

For Projection (Please see details in this issue)

JPG File Format, 1024 pixels wide (MAX) by 768 pixels tall (MAX), sRGB color space, 500 KB max size, correct file name format.

File Name: **Class~Maker's Name~Image Title.jpg**

Example: **Nov~Tom Jones~Washington Landscape.jpg**

The tilde ~ character separates 3 fields of the file name.

Class – Nov or Adv

Maker's Name – spaces allowed, use the same name throughout the year.

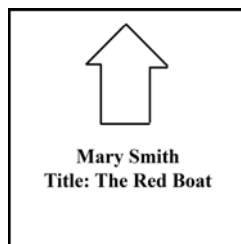
Image Title – spaces allowed, no commas.

Submissions by e-mail only to:

SSCCphotography@Yahoo.com

Deadline: Midnight 1-week before competition

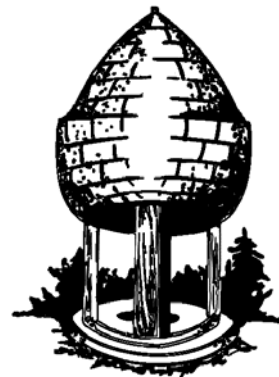
For Prints



Mark the **BACK** of the matte with photographer's **name** and **title** of the image and an **arrow** indicating the print's correct orientation

What's With the Acorn?

The SSCC logo is the acorn seen on the cover of this Handbook. The depiction is a sketch of Acorn Park, located along East-West Highway just east of Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring. Beneath the giant acorn is a pipe from which flows a trickle of water, purportedly the "silver spring" at which Selim, Montgomery Blair's horse, stopped to drink after throwing Blair from the saddle. The glints of mica floating in the spring water caused Blair to call the area Silver Spring, thus the park, and the acorn, and our logo!



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Silver Spring Camera Club Membership Application

Name: _____ Spouse/Partner: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phones-Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Email Addresses: _____

Membership Rates
Individual \$45
Student or Spouse \$25
Family \$65

Dues cover the club year from September through May. After January 31 dues for the remainder of the club year for new members are \$35; dues for spouses and students remain at \$25. Make checks payable to the *Silver Spring Camera Club* and mail to: *SSCC, PO Box 2375, Wheaton, MD 20915-2375*, or bring your check to any meeting. For questions about membership contact Laurel Sharf at Lsharf@verizon.net.

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All are available in the *Download* section of ssccphotography.org

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Useful Websites

Club Websites

Silver Spring Camera Club www.scccphotography.org

SSCC Facebook Page www.facebook.com/pages/Silver-Spring-Camera-Club/147660948590014?ref=sgm

SSCC Twitter Page www.twitter.com/ssccphoto

SSCC Newsletters and Downloads scccphotography.org/Club/ClubFilesDownload.aspx

SSCC Newsletters in print on Magcloud www.magcloud.com/browse/Magazine/11476

SSCC Books on Blurb www.blurb.com/search/site_search?search=silver+spring+camera+club

SSCC t-shirts www.cafepress.com/cp/customize/product.aspx?clear=true&number=%20450131301

Thursday Meeting Directions <http://mapq.st/LDkLfK>

Field Trip Meeting Directions <http://mapq.st/MNdV3I>

Online Forum email Dan Siken at dan.siken@gmail.com, then <http://groups.google.com/group/sscameraclub>.

Flickr Picture A Day Project www.flickr.com/groups/sscc_picture_a_day



Useful Information

Sunrises/Sunsets www.timeanddate.com

Software

Adobe Reader <http://get.adobe.com/reader/otherversions/>

Education Priced Software www.journeyed.com

GIMP (open source free Photoshop clone): www.gimp.org

www.scccphotography.org

flickr

Google
Groups



SSCC Constitution and By-Laws

Revised April 12, 2007

Article I - NAME

The name of the Club shall be Silver Spring Camera Club, hereinafter referred to as the Club.

Article III - CLUB EMBLEM

Section 1: The Club emblem shall be an acorn whose design follows that of the Springhouse at the original Silver Spring.

Article - III PURPOSE

The Club is a non-profit organization. Its purpose is to encourage members to increase their knowledge, skills and enjoyment of photography by holding meetings, classes, lectures and demonstrations of the various phases of photography; and conducting photographic competitions, workshops and other photography related activities.

Article IV - MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be open to all persons, except that membership shall be denied to applicants whose association with the Club could jeopardize the well being of the membership or integrity of the Club as determined by the Board.

Article V - OFFICERS

Section 1. The Officers of the Club shall be as follows:

A. President -- shall be the presiding officer at official Club meetings and direct the affairs of the Club.

B. Vice-President -- shall stand in for the President as required and carry out such responsibilities as the President directs.

C. Secretary -- shall record minutes of Board meetings and process Club correspondence as required by the President and/or Vice President

D. Treasurer -- shall maintain the financial records of the Club, chair the Finance Committee and maintain the Master Roster of paid up members.

Section 2. All Officers shall be elected from the membership of the Club for a period of 1 year or until their successors are elected. The period shall coincide with the fiscal year of the Club.

Article VI - EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Section 1. The **Executive Council** shall consist of the Officers and Directors of the Club.

Section 2. There shall be three **Directors** serving staggered 3-year terms. One Director shall be elected for a 3-year term at each regular election. In the event of a vacancy, the successor Director shall serve out the remainder of the vacated term.

Section 3. If a matter arises which requires a decision before the Board of Directors can be assembled for a meeting,

the President may poll the members of the Executive Council and act in accordance with the majority opinion of the Council. The President shall make an effort to contact all members of the Council, but if some are not available, the opinions of no less than five shall be included in the poll. The decision and the results of the poll shall be reported at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Article VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The **Board of Directors**, hereinafter referred to as the Board, shall consist of the Executive Council and the chairpersons of the various committees.

Section 2. Committee chairpersons shall have a full vote in Board business. No person shall have more than one vote by reason of multiple concurrent positions on the Board. Alternate chairpersons shall be entitled to vote only when the primary chairperson is not present.

Section 3. The Board shall have authority to fill vacancies in its membership, except that the Vice-President shall succeed to the Presidency in the event of a vacancy in that office.

Section 4. It shall be the duty of the Board to supervise the affairs of the Club, coordinate the activities of the various committees, and approve expenditure of Club funds.

Section 5. The Board shall decide the day and hour of its meetings. Regular Board meetings shall be scheduled sufficiently in advance to allow at least 2 weeks notification to the membership.

Section 6. The President, or three members of the Board including at least one member of the Executive Council, may call a special meeting of the Board of at least 1 week in advance of the meeting.

Section 7. All Board meetings shall be open to the general membership. Members not on the Board may speak before the Board, but shall not have a vote in its business.

Section 8. Minutes of Board meetings shall be recorded by the Recording Secretary, or a member of the Club designated as an alternate. Highlights of the minutes shall be published in the Cable Release at the earliest opportunity.

Section 9. The Board may adopt such rules and regulations for its activities as are necessary so long as they are not contrary to this Constitution and By-Laws.

Section 10. To over-ride the decision of the Board on a specific question, a petition signed by 15 members in good standing and presented to the President, shall bring the question before the general membership at the next regular Club meeting. Approval by two-thirds of the members present at the meeting, including written proxies, shall be re-

quired to over-ride the Board.

Article VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular Club meetings of the general membership shall be the first and third Thursday of each month, September through May. Exceptions may be made as determined necessary by the Executive Council.

Section 2. Conduct of business requiring a vote at Board and regular Club meetings shall be in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Article IX - QUORUM

Section 1. A quorum for the transaction of business requiring a vote at a regular Club meeting shall be one-third of the membership in good standing. The presence of a quorum may be deemed by the two members of the Executive Council.

Section 2. A quorum of the Board shall be five, one of whom must be an Officer and one of whom must be a Director.

Article X - OFFICIAL PUBLICATION & WEB SITE

Section 1. The official publication of the Club shall be a newsletter, named the Cable Release. The Cable Release shall contain all notifications of Club business as required by this Constitution and By-Laws, plus any other Club-related items of interest to the membership.

Section 2. The Cable Release shall be *made available* to all members in good standing on a regular basis during the Club year, plus special issues as deemed necessary by the Executive Council.

Section 3. The membership shall have the right to submit and have published in the Cable Release, items of Club-related interest, including qualified opinion, as long as the items are not derogatory, derisive, or otherwise contrary to the well-being of the Club. The editor of the Cable Release shall be required to obtain concurrence of the Executive Council prior to rejection of any submission as unfit for publication.

Section 4. *The Club will also maintain an official Internet Web site that will serve as an electronic repository for current Club news, events, and activities. An appointed Club Webmaster shall be responsible for managing the design, organization, content, and access rights for the site. The President, along with Executive Council, shall provide guidance as necessary to ensure that the Web site content meets the highest standards for clarity, accuracy, and integrity. The Club's Internet Web site address (www.SSCCPhotography.org) will be included in all official Club handouts, recruitment flyers, and each issue of the Club's official newsletter.*

Article XI - FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Club shall begin July 1 of each year and extend through the following June 30.

Article XII - DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

Section 1. Membership dues shall be established by the Board. Dues shall be due and payable by the first regular Club meeting of each fiscal year.

Section 2. Any change in dues shall become effective at the beginning of the fiscal year following the Board action to effect a change. Final action shall not be taken by the Board except at a Board meeting for which the general membership has had at least 30 days prior notification. Interested members may speak on the proposed change prior to the vote at such an announced meeting. New dues and their effective date shall be published in *both the Cable Release and on its Web site* immediately after adoption and immediately prior to the first regular Club meeting of the fiscal year.

Section 3. Members who have not paid their dues by *October 31 of the current fiscal year* shall be dropped from membership rolls. Such members may be reinstated upon full payment of current fiscal year dues.

Section 4. Special assessments must be approved by 2/3 of the full Board of Directors, and must be announced to the general membership in the Cable Release and on the Club Web site prior to the date of any such assessment.

Article XIV - COMMITTEES

Section 1. **Special Committees:** The President may establish special committees as required. Special committees shall continue to function until the service for which they were appointed is completed, or until discharged by the President. Their appointments shall not extend beyond the close of the fiscal year in which appointed.

A. Nominations and Elections Committee:

- (1) This committee shall present a slate of candidates for Club Officers and Director(s) at the regular Club meetings in April. Following presentation of the slate, the committee shall solicit and accept nominations from the floor. Neither the slate nor floor nominations need a second, however each candidate must state a willingness to serve.
- (2) The committee shall conduct elections during the first regular Club meeting in May.

Section 2. **Standing Committees:** The President, with the approval of the Board, shall, when necessary, establish the following committees and appoint their respective chairpersons. The tenure of these committees shall coincide with the Club fiscal year.

A. Speakers and Judges Program Committee: *Shall recruit, schedule, and submit a biography for each program speaker and competition judge.*

B. Education Program Committee: Shall plan and present monthly educational meetings.

C. Finance Committee: The Treasurer shall be Chairperson. Other members shall include the Vice-President, a Director, plus at least one other Board member as appointed by the President. This committee shall prepare a proposed budget to be submitted to the President prior to the first regular Club meeting of the fiscal year. This committee shall cause an audit of the Treasurer's books of accounts after the close of the fiscal year and present it for approval by the President. It shall be the duty of the Finance committee to oversee all expenditures, making certain that such expenditures do not exceed budget allocations. No budget allocation shall be exceeded without approval by the Executive Council.

D. Competition Committee: The Competition Secretary shall be Chairperson. This committee shall be responsible for:

- (1) Conducting all intra-club competitions.
- (2) Maintaining records of all intra and inter-club competitions, including a list of members competing, entries, awards, and scoring, as outlined in the S.S.C.C. Rules of Competition and Awards.
- (3) Developing rules of competition and presenting them to the Board for approval. Any change in the rules shall become effective at the beginning of the fiscal year following the Board action to effect such a change. The new rules and their effective date shall be published in the Cable Release issued immediately prior to the first regular Club meeting of the fiscal year.
- (4) Determining eligibility of entries and briefing visiting judges on S.S.C.C. competition and judging criteria.
- (5) Forwarding the results of all competitions and names of all members that move from the novice to the advanced class to the Cable Release editor for publication and to the Archives Committee.

E. Field Trip Committee: This committee shall arrange, announce, and take charge of all Club field trips and related outings.

F. Membership Committee: This committee shall be responsible for new member recruitment program, welcoming new members, and assuring that they are thoroughly indoctrinated in Club activities and procedures. This shall include printed handouts, introductions to committee chairpersons, and, if necessary, arranging for another member to serve as "host" to the new member.

G. Workshop Committees: May be formed for slides, monochrome prints, color prints or other subjects. Chairpersons shall be appointed for each committee formed. Chairperson shall establish and announce dates and locations of workshops, plan and present programs, and arrange for speakers as required.

H. Publication Committee: *The Club's newsletter editor and the Web site manager (aka Webmaster) shall comprise the Publication Committee, and be responsible for editing, designing, publishing, and distributing all Club publicity, activities, and events.*

I. Refreshments Committee: This committee shall procure, prepare and serve refreshments at regular Club meetings.

J. Exhibits Committee: This committee shall make arrangements and be responsible for Club exhibits.

K. Special Interest Groups: Critique groups, special workshops, and other similar sub-organizations may be formed within the Club to provide forums for the pursuit of specialized, technical, and aesthetic aspects of photography at the discretion of the Board. Participation in such groups shall be open to all members. Such groups shall have full and equal status as Club committees, and their chairpersons shall be voting members of the Board.

L. Archives Committee: The Chairperson shall serve as the Club Historian and maintain chronological files of correspondence, Cable Releases, and other documents pertaining to Club Activities.

Article XV - INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Officers shall be installed at the Year End Banquet and shall assume office on July 1.

Article XVI - Affiliation

Section 1. The Club may affiliate with such photographic, artistic, recreational, or educational organizations as the Board may deem beneficial to the Club.

Section 2. Representatives of the Club to outside organizations, as authorized by Section 1 of this Article, and as designated by the President, shall have committee chairperson status and be a voting member of the Board.

Article XVII - Amendments

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a 2/3 vote of members present at a regular Club meeting, including written proxies. Amendments may be proposed by any Club member. A proposed amendment may not be voted on at the meeting in which it is proposed, but shall be voted on after publication in the Cable Release or posted to the Club Web site and not later than the second regular Club meeting following such publication.

Article XVIII - Incorporation

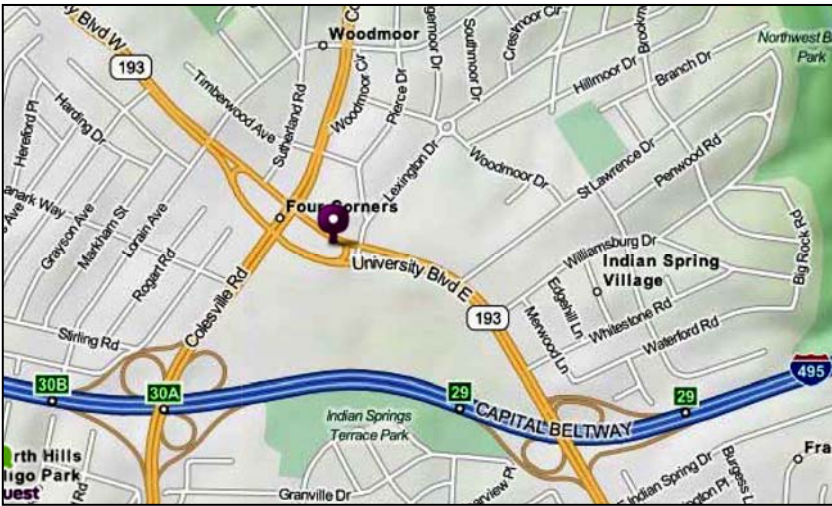
At the discretion of the Board, the Club may be incorporated.

Article XIX - Distribution of Assets

No part of the net earnings of the Club shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to, its members, officers, directors, or other private persons, except that the Club shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation.

Article XX - Effective Date

This Constitution and By-Laws of the Silver Spring Camera Club, as set forth in the preceding Articles I through XIX, supersede and entirely replace all prior versions and amendments thereof. The effective date of this Constitution and By-Laws shall be April 12, 2007.

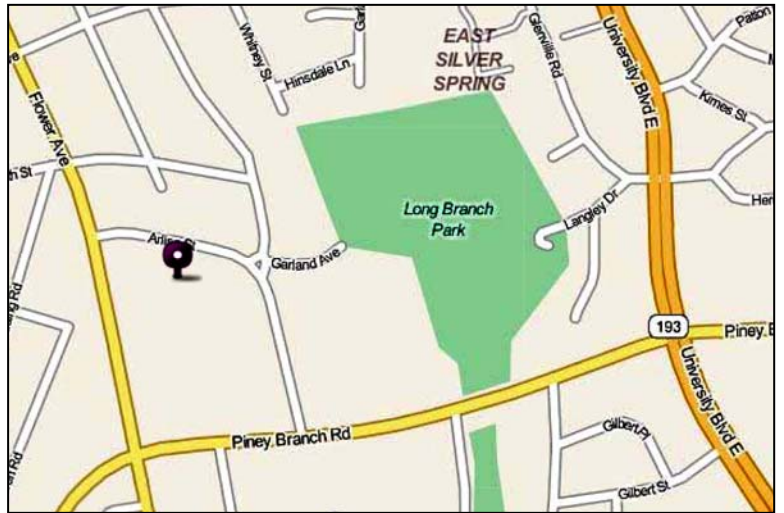


Thursday Night Meetings

Marvin Memorial United Methodist Church,
 33 University Blvd. East,
 Silver Spring, MD 20901
 Directions at <http://mapq.st/LDkLfK>

Saturday Field Trip Carpools

Giant Food Supermarket Parking Lot
 8750 Arliss St.
 Silver Spring, MD 20901
 (the corner of Flower Ave. and Arliss St.)
 Directions at <http://mapq.st/MNdV3J>



Silver Spring Camera Club
 PO Box 2375
 Wheaton, MD
 20915-2375

First Class Mail