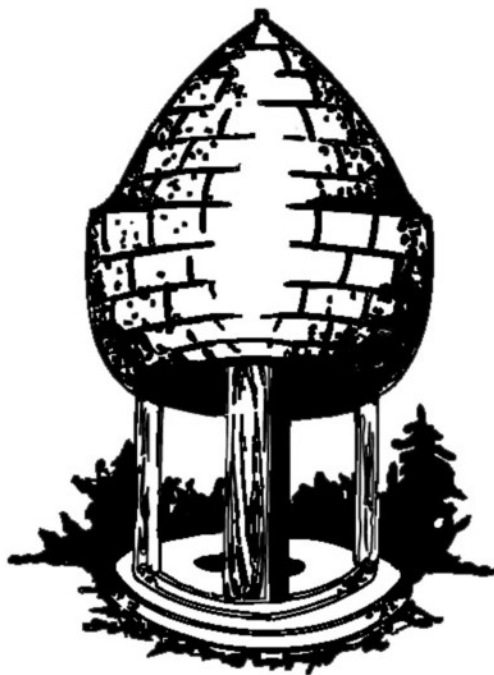# Silver Spring Camera Club
Member Handbook

2023-2024

Founded 1950   www.ssccphotography.gr

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https://www.ssccphotography.org/copyright-notice-and-disclaimer/

Contents

WELCOME TO THE SILVER SPRING CAMERA CLUB

Welcome to the Silver Spring Camera Club's 73nd Season! If you're a new member, this Handbook will serve as an introduction to the many benefits of joining the Club. If you are a renewing member, this Handbook provides useful information such as the competition topics for 2023-2024, this year's calendar of speakers and judges, field trips, and ideas to improve your photography and workflow. SSCC truly offers something for everyone. Whether you are interested in the competition experience, or just attending and learning about the process, we have some gifted photographers and great judges who offer constructive feedback in a very supportive and fun environment. Competition Night has made me a better photographer. The Club also offers a wealth of learning and fellowship opportunities, including insightful speakers, field trips, and a monthly meeting called Photo Forum which offers members a chance to receive feedback on their photography from their fellow members in a non-judging environment. This meeting allows you to learn new skills with workshops, and presentations on photographic subjects. All the meetings and field trips offer a great opportunity to get to know the other members and share your photography experiences and ask some questions. We also have a monthly board meeting, which is a great opportunity to be a voice in the direction of the club.

The Club has a deep history and many longtime members. The members are interested in furthering their knowledge of photography and having the opportunity to share the experience and socialize with others who feel the same. It is very easy to connect with the club. In addition to the weekly meetings, you can find information on Meetup, and we have a Google Group forum. In my experience, club members are all happy to share their knowledge of and enthusiasm for photography, so reach out to them at the next meeting. I hope that this Handbook will serve as a resource throughout the year.

Catherine Honigsberg

President
president@ssccphotography.org

Will Rabinovich

SSCC KEY INFORMATION

The **Silver Spring Camera Club (SSCC)** is 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 70 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 three Thursday nights of each month from September through May of each year and conducts a board meeting (open to all members) on the fourth Thursday. Exceptions are made for key holidays. An annual awards ceremony is held in mid-June.

For the 2023-2024 Club year, meetings on the second Thursday will be held in person at the Northwood Presbyterian Church. These meetings will generally be for Competition Night. If an in-person judge is not available, the second Thursday will be Photo Forum and Competition Night will move to the third Thursday. All other regular monthly meetings will be online, using Zoom.

Speaker Meetings

Guest Speaker meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month from 7:30-9:30 p.m. A speaker, usually either a professional photographer or renowned amateur, will deliver an illustrated talk on some aspect of photography. Having these meetings online has allowed us to welcome speakers from around the country; we plan to continue online Speaker meetings even after we resume other meetings in person.

Competitions

Competitions are held on the second Thursday of each month from 7:30-9:30 p.m., unless there is not an in-person judge available. Depending on the number of images to be judged, competitions may end later. Independent experienced judges are arranged, and the entries are judged blindly. Images may be entered in Advanced, Novice, and Beginner classes, in categories of Print or Projected (digital) images. The Print category would be suspended for any Zoom meetings. Competition themes vary from month to month.

Photo Forum Meetings

The interactive meetings, named "Photo Forum," are held on the third Thursday of each month from 7:30-9:30 p.m., with the exception noted earlier. Photo Forum includes open group discussions, presentations on photography-related topics by any members, and sharing of images submitted by SSCC members with feedback and suggestions by advanced members.

The Photo Forum is an informal and relaxed opportunity to enjoy discussions with other photographers. Each meeting provides useful information for every level of photographic expertise, from beginner to advanced. The atmosphere is accepting and supportive of all attendees. What topics would you like to explore? Topics can be wide-ranging, and include, for example, photo book reviews, an aspect of your own photography that you'd like to share, discussion of shows, workshops, trips, photo gear, software, and your questions.

Board Meetings

The fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. is reserved for Board Meetings. The agenda is circulated before the meeting, and all members are welcome to attend and contribute.

Field Trips

At least one field trip is held every month on a Saturday, Sunday, or Monday holiday during the club year, and sometimes during the summer as well. Most trips are to sites in and around the Washington DC area, although we occasionally visit locations in Baltimore, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Please check the *Cable Release,* the SSCC website (http://www.ssccphotography.org/), or sign up for Meetup announcements. You may contact the Field Trip chairperson (Phil Boyer) 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. Twenty-one 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 Club recently reviewed its competition rules, and beginning in 2014-15, there are two categories for each competition: Projected (digital images) and Prints. Members can enter up to two images (monochrome or color, unless otherwise specified in the month's competition topic) in each category.

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 "shortshorts" 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. We currently conduct workshops, along with education and photo sharing, under our "Photo Forum" meetings.

From the very beginning, 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, managed by 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. In the 2016/17 program year the *Cable Release* became a web-based newsletter with links to articles and other web pages.

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.

MPA

The Silver Spring Camera Club, along with over 25 other Maryland photography clubs, is a member of the Maryland Photography Alliance, or MPA. SSCC has been a participant in MPA since its inception in 2017. The alliance is dedicated to providing information, education, and inspiration to photographers of all levels. Its programs include

- **Artist Spotlight**, which features well-known and respected photographers;
- **Odyssey of Light**, a yearly presentation of excellent photographers;
- **Photography Contest**, open to all photographers in Maryland and beyond;
- **Training of Judges,** to help supply quality judges for camera clubs' competitions.

You can access MPA's website at https://www.mdphotoalliance.org/ .

For general information about the club, email us at: info@ssccphotography.org.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President	Catherine Honigsberg	president [at] ssccphotography.org
Vice President	Dennis Freeman	vicepresident [at] ssccphotography.org
Secretary	Miriam Struck	
Treasurer	Bruce Schaefer	
Directors	Bob Catlett	
	Michael Koren	
	Oliver (Pete) Morton	

COMMITTEES AND CHAIRS

Nominations and Elections (permanent)	vacant ++ (Oversees the nomination and election of Club Officers and directors)	
Membership	Lisa Auerbach *, Marc Auerbach and Andrew Rein	membership [at] ssccphotography.org
Competition	chair is vacant ++, David Blass, Jim Riley, Diane Sanders	competition [at] ssccphotography.org
Programs (Speakers & Judges)	Frank Gallagher *	programs [at] ssccphotography.org
Education (Photo Forum)	Dennis Freeman *, Oliver (Pete) Morton	
Field Trips	Phillip Boyer *	
Historian	Norm Bernache *	historian [at] ssccphotography.org
Newsletter Editors	Sherm Edwards * and Tanya Riseman	cablereleaseeditor [at] ssccphotography.org
Website Managers	Will Rabinovich *	web [at] ssccphotography.org

Special Interests Group	dormant ++	
Affiliations	Oliver (Pete) Morton * (PSA), Lisa Auerbach (MPA)	
Exhibits	dormant ++	
Social and Refreshments	Renee Schaefer*	
Special Committee: Community Service	vacant ++ (no voting privileges)	

* denotes the chair of the committee, who has board voting privileges.

++ If interested in participating in or making short-term contributions, please contact Membership for information
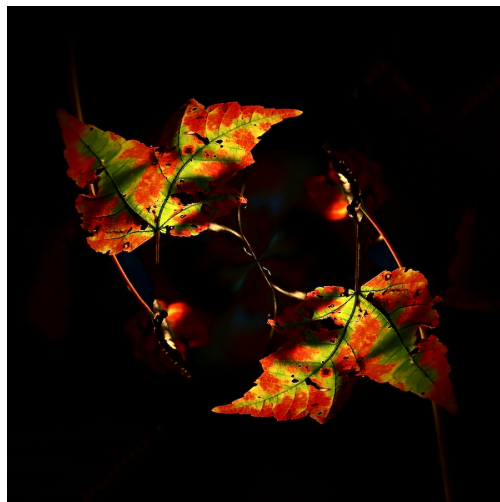
Ann Golfer

SSCC MEETING LOCATION

In-person meetings on the second Thursday of the month will be held at Northwood Presbyterian Church (https://www.northwoodchurch.com/); masks are optional. All other regular monthly meetings will be online, via Zoom.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

SSCC welcomes the membership of all those interested in photography, regardless of skill level. Current yearly membership dues are $50 for individuals, $35 for students, and $80 for a family.

Besides the camaraderie and educational programs, renewing your membership means you are eligible to enter your best shots in our monthly photo competition, and continue to receive our award-winning newsletter, the *Cable Release*.

Membership dues cover the SSCC fiscal year, which is September through May. If you paid dues after last September, please note that you need to renew this September, at beginning of our club's fiscal year (not on the anniversary of your previous dues payment).

Payment of dues (and filling out the Membership Form) can be done online now. Please go to Online Membership Form to join or renew online. Payment of dues by either credit card or check is offered, and either is an option in the online form.

To reiterate the check information there, make the check to "SSCC" and give or send to the SSCC treasurer at the address below, or hand to any club officer during in-person meetings.

Silver Spring Camera Club
c/o Bruce Schaefer, Treasurer
PO Box 2375
Silver Spring, MD 20915-2375

For more information, contact Lisa or Marc Auerbach, or Andrew Rein at membership@ssccphotography.org.

We realize that recent world events have put a financial strain on many of our friends and neighbors. If you are unable to join SSCC because of a financial reason, please contact the membership committee. Your continuing participation is important.
For more information, contact Lisa or Marc Auerbach or Andrew Rein at membership@ssccphotography.org.

Diane Sanders

CALENDAR 2023-2024

Here is the calendar of meetings for the 2023-2024 Club year. Updated speakers, judges, and field trips will be announced throughout the year. Field trips are subject to change, based on health, safety, and other concerns.

Date	Event	Date	Event
Sep 4	Field Trip: Maryland Renaissance Festival	Nov TBD	Board Meeting
Sep 7	Speaker: Burke Seim, Service Photo, *State of the Photography Industry*		
		Dec 7	Speaker: Franklyn Kearney, *Cityscapes*
Sep 14	Competition: Open -- Roz Kleffman	Dec 14	Competition: Macro/Closeup – Joel Hoffman
Sep 16	Field Trip: Sassafras Natural Resource Management Area OR Elk Neck State Park	Dec ??	Field Trip: Holiday Lights, site TBD
Sep 21	Photo Forum	Dec 21	Photo Forum
Sep 28	Board Meeting	Dec 28	Board Meeting
Oct 5	Speaker: Imma Barrera, *Astro and Milky Way Photography*	Jan 4	Speaker: Joe Reardon, *Topic TBA*
Oct 12	Competition: Nature – Cynthia Keith	Jan 11	Competition: Open – Judge TBA
Oct 14	Field Trip: St. Mary's River State Park OR Calvert Cliffs State Park	Jan 18	Photo Forum
Oct 19	Photo Forum	Jan 25	Board Meeting
Oct 26	Board Meeting		
		Feb 1	Speaker: TBA
Nov 2	Speaker: Bert Serkin, *Macro & Closeup Photography*	Feb 8	Competition: Industrial – Judge TBA
Nov 9	Open – Ron Peiffer	Feb 15	Photo Forum
Nov 16	Photo Forum	Feb 22	Board Meeting
Nov 18	Field Trip: Udar-Hazy Smithsonian Air & Space Museum	Mar 7	Speaker: Sandy Zelasko, *From a Judge's Point of View*
		Mar 14	Competition: Open – Judge TBA
Nov 24	Thanksgiving – No Meeting	Mar 21	Photo Forum

Mar 28	Board Meeting		May 2	Speaker: Don Rosenberger, *Abstract*
			May 9	Competition: Monochrome – Ed Palaczynski
Apr 4	Speaker: Chris Murray, *The Subjective Landscape*		May 16	Photo Forum
Apr 11	Competition: Intentional Camera Movement – Judge TBA		May 23	Board Meeting
Apr 18	Photo Forum			
Apr 25	Board Meeting		Mid-June	End of Year Celebration, Awards, and Competition
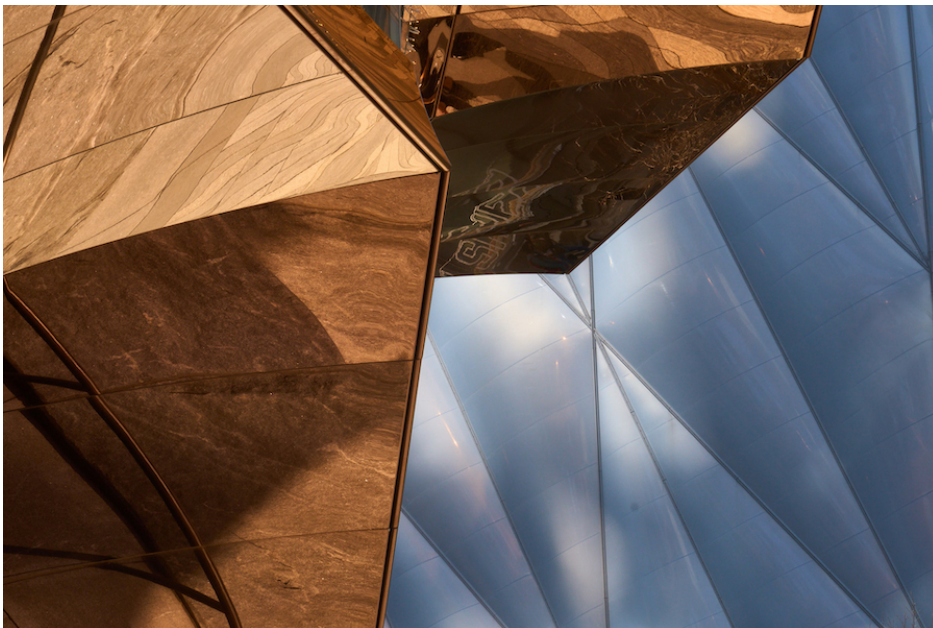
Will Rabinovich

COMPETITION TOPIC DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to 2023-2024 competitions.

Open

In open competitions, free rein is given to the choices the photographer makes in the creation of the submitted image. Images of any and all subjects or themes, created using any photographic or post-processing methods or techniques, are acceptable. The images are evaluated based upon the judge's general assessment of their creativity, emotional and/or intellectual impact, aesthetic beauty, uniqueness of subject, and technical skill. The judge need not assign any specific weight to any single attribute of the image.

Nature Photography

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 in this competition may show human intervention. Domestic plants (e.g., in a botanical garden) or animals (including zoo animals) may be included as long as they do not show any human intervention (e.g., collars or ear tags, gates, walls, paths, signage).

Macro/Close-up

The term "Macro/Close-up Photography" encompasses images made from close-up range, in which the subject of the photograph is very small or is a very small detail of a larger object.

Intentional Camera Movement

The term "Intentional Camera Movement Photography," or ICM, encompasses images in which the photographer has intentionally moved the camera while depressing the shutter, such that some aspect of the image indicates that movement.

Industrial

The term "Industrial Photography" encompasses images that contain machinery, buildings, processes, equipment, and/or remnants thereof, that are or were involved in the manufacture of products.

Monochrome Photography

The term "Monochrome Photography" encompasses images that use only a single color, including the full array of shades of that color. So, for example, black and white photos, with black as the single color and its multiple shades of gray, are monochrome. Other single colors and their shades are equally acceptable. Under this definition, a sepia tone photo is acceptable, but a sepia tone photo containing a red umbrella would not qualify as a monochrome. Any subject matter is acceptable. In addition, a photo is acceptable if was originally taken as a color image, as long as the image presented for the competition has been rendered into monochrome.

AI POLICY

Note: A policy on the use of AI, particularly generative AI, is being developed. In the meantime, please be mindful of the Official Competition Rules and Awards r08-2023 The pertinent rules can be summarized as

1. The photograph originates from a light-sensitive device (such as film or digital camera, as well as scanned film, enlarger, copier, or flatbed scanner, etc), (Section 1)
2. The photograph is made by the entrant and any image editing, retouching, or manipulation of images must be done by the entrant. (Section IV)
3. Respects others' copyright. (Section 1)

MONTHLY MEMBER WORKFLOW

The following topic list indicates the activities and meetings that generally define each month in the program year of September through May. Other irregular activities are introduced into the monthly schedule from time-to-time as well.

Beginning of the Month

- If you are planning to enter competition, finish working on up to two photographs to submit for the Projected (digital) competition [and/or mat or mount up to two photographs for the Print competition when it resumes after pandemic].
- Consider providing an article for the Cable Release newsletter (including reviews, workshops, trips, thoughts, or anything of interest!).

First Thursday – Speaker Night

- Attend Speaker Night to gain inspiration and learn how an expert approaches photography.
- Submit Projected Competition entries by the midnight deadline.

Second Thursday – Competition

- [When face-to-face meetings resume, arrive early to sign in and turn in matted Print Competition entries. (Use the template provided on the SSCC website http://www.ssccphotography.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/PrintCompetitionLabels-8-16.pdf.)]
- Listen to comments by the judge about your photographs, and about others' photographs, to learn how to see and develop work critically from the various judges' perspectives.

Third Thursday – Photo Forum

- Based on the topic, whether it be your images for sharing on a specified theme, an education topic, or your questions or thoughts for the interactive open forum, prepare/email any relevant materials indicated in the prior Photo Forum meeting, the Cable Release, eBlast, or Meetup announcement. You may also wish to discuss a book, gear, software, video, or anything else.
- For eventual live meetings, be prepared to show your own images and offer your own feedback, critique, and questions to others.

Fourth Thursday – Board Meeting

- Optionally attend and participate (non-voting) with Board members in discussions and decisions involving the Club's future!

Field Trip(s)

- Be sure that you know the meeting time and place, which is announced in the *Cable Release,* at Thursday night meetings, and on Meetup announcements.
- Check out the venue on its website, or via a "Google" or Flickr image search, 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, tripod, filters, etc.

End of the Month

- Submit your article for the *Cable Release* to the Cable Release Editor by the 24th.
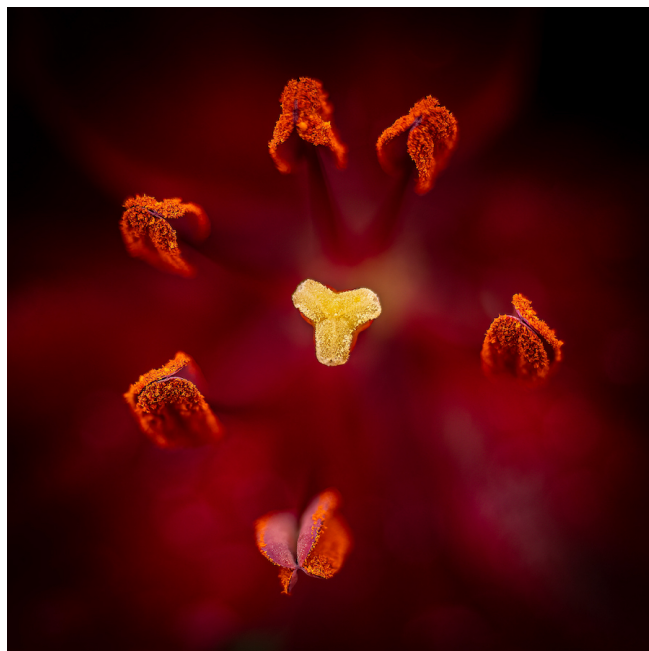
Larry Gold

FIELD TRIPS

Each month, the Club typically organizes at least one field trip for members to shoot together. This is a great opportunity to learn from other members and shake yourself out of a photographic rut, a no pressure opportunity to experiment with your photography and enjoy the company of fellow club members. When possible, field trips end with a group lunch.

Field trips are typically scheduled on a Saturday, Sunday, or Monday holiday during the club season, and sometimes during the summer as well. Most trips are to sites in and around the Washington DC area, although we occasionally visit locations in Baltimore, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Please check our Cable Release newsletter, our website (https://www.ssccphotography.org) , sign up for Meetup announcements, or contact the trip leader. We are always looking for volunteers to lead trips, and ideas for fun places to photograph.
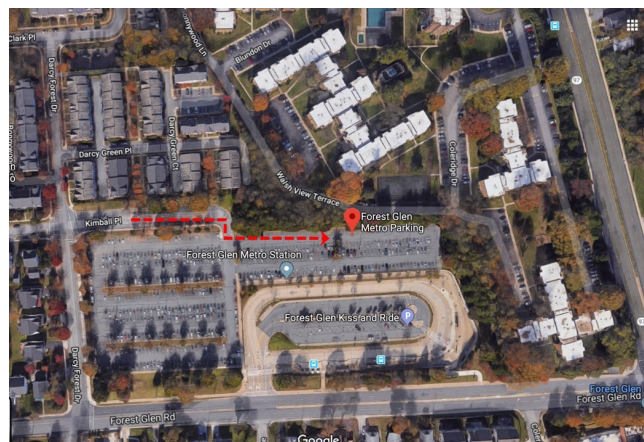
Masks are optional.

Carpooling is back!

The carpool location in the **Forest Glen Metro Parking Lot**:

2100 Walsh View Terrace, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Note that the entrance to the lot is from Kimball Pl in the back, and not from Walsh View Terrace or Forest Glen Rd.

Meet on the north side of the lot, near the trees and the lot entrance.

Gerry Woods

THE GEORGE DEBUCHANANNE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT FUND

The Silver Spring Camera Club comprises a diverse group of individuals passionately dedicated to the pursuit of photographic excellence. We believe that photography, like many art forms, can be a means of serving a purpose greater than self-expression for the artist. To this end, the Board of Directors has established the **George DeBuchananne Community Service Project Fund**. The Fund honors George DeBuchananne, an avid photographer and club member who was a great proponent of community service.

Guidelines

• The purpose of the George DeBuchananne Community Service Project Fund is to financially support a photography project that advances a community-related cause. A project may be proposed by a Club member, by another photographer sponsored by a Club member, or by a community organization sponsored by a Club member.

• Any Club member applying for a grant, directly or indirectly, must have paid Club dues for the current year. The George DeBuchananne Community Service Project Fund Committee will award grants to projects that best represent the ideal of community service through photography. A grant may fund all or only part of a project.

• Funds are to be used for photography-related consumable items and for other support, and not for capital equipment. Possible items that might be funded include paper (not art paper), commercial printing, matting, teaching supplies, and other such expenses. Items that would not be considered include lenses, cameras, printers, ink, other non-consumable items, or food and drinks.

• Grant recipients will be asked to give a brief talk about the project at a club meeting and to submit a brief article to the *Cable Release* about the project. The committee chair will help arrange this.

• Applications can be submitted at any time by turning in a completed application at any club meeting. Every effort will be made to return a decision to the applicant within 30 days.

Club members, families, and friends are invited to donate to the Fund to recognize fellow members, to celebrate significant photographic milestones in their lives such as the first publication of an image in a national magazine or first solo exhibit, or simply to support the community outreach mission of the Fund. Donations will be accepted by Bruce Schaefer, the Club Treasurer, throughout the club year and also can be included with Club dues by using the check-off box on the membership form.

Instructions

1. Fill out your name and email address on the application form (below). Please write legibly.

2. Please tell the committee about your project and expected cost. Include another sheet of paper if needed.

3. When you are done, fold the form in the two places indicated so as to cover your name and email address, then tape the folded portion in place. This will let the committee evaluate the applications anonymously.

4. Give the form to the Club president, Catherine Honigsberg, or vice president, Dennis Freeman, at any in-person SSCC meeting or email it to president@ssccphotography.org (preferable especially while meetings are virtual). They will give your form to the committee.

5. **You will be notified of the committee's decision within 30 days of submitting your grant application (in most cases).**

Karen Finkelman

Grant Application

Silver Spring Camera Club George DeBuchananne Community Service Project Fund

(fold here)_ _

Name: _____

email address: _____

(fold here)_ _

Please describe the goal of your proposed project and the steps you'll take to meet that goal.
(Include another sheet if necessary.)

What will your expenses be? Please include an anticipated cost for each expense and the date by which you will need the grant funds. Please note that you may be awarded a grant that only covers part of your expenses.

Total expenses:

CABLE RELEASE

Maude Svensson ~ Fisherman's Boat

SSCC publishes a monthly newsletter, the *Cable Release*, from September to May each year. This publication keeps members informed about all planned activities, speakers, judges, field trips, articles, and more. Each *Cable Release* issue also features winners from the previous month's photo competition.

The Photographic Society of America awarded the *Cable Release* second place (tie) for large club newsletters in 2013-2014 and even the newsletter-of-the-year in previous rounds of competition.

In 2016 the *Cable Release* became a web-based newsletter. We maintain an archive of the prior newsletters as published in either the web-based or the original PDF formats. The newer format has significant advantages from the previous hardcopy-emulating format when read with a computer, tablet, or smartphone. These include more efficient navigating through topics and more selectivity in reading just one article at a time. We also provide links to other articles within the SSCC site, and throughout the internet at large, for further exploration of topics of interest.

The *Cable Release* is organized as a high-level web page. It has a cover photo, followed by a Table of Contents (TOC) that includes the main sections of the newsletter. You can click on any section in the TOC and be transported to that section. You can return to the top from any point in the newsletter with a click on "Return to Top" on the bottom-right of your screen.
Key events are listed immediately after the TOC, and provide the dates, meetings, and field trips at a glance. The main sections thereafter are:

- **"Meetings and Field Trips"** has descriptions of the speaker, competition, and field trip(s) for the month.
- **"Club News"** includes board meeting notes, photos from the last month's field trip(s), upcoming socials, acknowledgement of members' accomplishments, and other club-related items.
- **"Features"** contains topics of interest that we wish to highlight. These can include particular workshops or events, articles about SSCC member accomplishments, or anything that doesn't easily fit in "Club News" or "Member Articles".
- **"Conferences and Expos"** when we have several such events to share. Otherwise, we will just add the odd item to the Features.
- **"Member Articles"** includes what it sounds like –articles by members on anything they wish to share.
- **"Competition Winners"** includes the results and images from recent competitions, including members' comments about their photographs.
- **"Classes, Calls for Entry, and Exhibits"** includes upcoming classes and workshops, calls to enter various photography competitions, and exhibits and events in the greater DC Metro Area.
-

The *Cable Release* contains mostly new material, befitting a "newsletter." You will generally see introductory paragraphs on the

primary page linked to full articles on their own pages. You can more quickly navigate to topics of interest without paging and re-paging through a serial magazine format.

One big advantage of the web-based design is that we have removed the size constraint for articles (for the most part). While we still want to keep each article concise and readable in a few minutes, we can now include galleries of pictures for an article rather than just a few selected photographs.

The newsletter can only be as good as the news, articles, and other information submitted by Club members. Please consider offering reviews of your own photographic equipment or software, for example, either a new acquisition or an old favorite that might still be available on used equipment venues. People are also looking for photo tips and techniques, so please send any that you might have. The web-based *Cable Release* is an opportunity to share your thoughts in a flexible format with illustrative examples. If you've attended photo workshops, seminars, or classes that others could also be interested in, please send a review. It doesn't have to be a full-length article. It can be a paragraph – please include a web address or equivalent for the organization involved so that the members know where to pursue it further. Try to focus more on the positive experiences that you'd recommend to others.

All members have an opportunity to submit content for *Cable Release* publication. If you want to submit something, and aren't sure about any aspect of it, just ask! Here are some general notes:
- Please proofread your submission.
- Don't worry too much about formatting, as it will have to be reformatted for the web pages anyhow. If you would like to do something more elaborate, we can probably figure out how to do just about anything.
- If you want to include photographs and have them appear in a defined order and place, use identifying labels in the text to indicate their location. We can also include a larger group of photos as a gallery. Also,

please provide short captions for photos if you want captions.
- Any photograph that you provide that is bigger than 900 x 900 pixels will be resized to fit on the web page. Your photos can be sized to fill the width of the screen, they can be centered with no text-wrapping, or they can be placed to the left or right sides with text wrapping. We have lots of flexibility.

Any questions about the *Cable Release*, and SSCC member submissions for the *Cable Release*, are welcomed by the editor at cablereleaseeditor@ssccphotography.org.

Beth Koller

SILVER SPRING CAMERA CLUB AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Connecting with the You can find us on Meetup and we have a Google group forum. Of course, the best way to connect is to attend one of our meetings! But, between our weekly gatherings here are all the different ways to connect to SSCC online when you're not at a meeting.

Joining the SSCC Listserv

If you want to hear the latest photo news and reach out to fellow SSCC members for answers, sign up for the SSCC listserv. The SSCC listserv uses Google Groups, a very simple, well-known, intuitive system. To sign up, email web@ssccphotograpy.org. All we need is your name and email address. You will then get an invite by email.

There are two ways to access listserv messages. One is by email. You have the option of receiving each post by email, or getting a single, digest email approximately once a day with all of the posts in it. You can respond to all posts by replying to the email.

The other method is by going to the Club's Google group website, which is groups.google.com/group/sscameraclub. 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.

If you've never been a member of a listserv, this may sound a bit complicated, but it's actually fairly simple. If you have questions, please see the web manager at a meeting, or just email to web@ssccphotograpy.org. See you online!

Silver Spring Camera Club is on Meetup

Silver Spring Camera Club is on the Meetup social media platform! Meetup is an online social media tool that fosters genuine connections with Meetup members while enhancing the visibility of SSCC in the community. We joined Meetup to help advertise the many exciting activities we offer and encourage more members to join the club and participate. More sharing of knowledge and experiences will help everyone grow as photographers and make membership in the Silver Spring Camera Club more worthwhile than ever before.

Meetup is not just a social media platform similar to Facebook or Twitter. Meetup really fosters face to face meetings rather than exclusively online "friends" and "followers". Meetup exists in 180 countries, and has almost 22.5 million members among 209,000 Meetup groups, with about 4,000 of those groups about photography.

Current members of the Club are encouraged to join the Meetup group. Go to: www.meetup.com/Silver-SpringCamera-Club .

The advantages of joining the Meetup group are reminder emails about meetings, finding and staying in contact with other members, a place to post and enjoy looking at others' photos from field trips and finally, the possibility of finding other Meetup groups that may interest you with different topics than photography. Take a look around and join the fun!

SILVER SPRING CAMERA CLUB OFFICIAL COMPETITION RULES AND AWARDS (Revised August 2015)

I. GENERAL

1. A competition is defined as a judging of photographs of a particular category made by entrants competing at a particular level at the regularly scheduled SSCC meeting for this purpose.

2. Entrants must be members in good standing of SSCC, meaning that, in accordance with the bylaws, annual dues must be paid before participating in any competition.

3. The Competition Chairman (or person acting in his / her stead) is 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 Chairman 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 be initially created with light sensitive devices such as film or digital camera, as well as scanned film, enlarger, copier, or flatbed scanner, etc. Images that were not created with a light sensitive device are not photographs and are not permitted. To encourage creativity and exploration of new technologies, there is no restriction on the amount or type of computer or darkroom manipulation performed by the entrant on an image.

6. SSCC assumes no liability for any misuse of copyright and is not responsible for any loss of or damage to any images submitted. By virtue of submitting an entry, the entrant certifies the work as not infringing on anyone else's copyright. With the permission of the photographer, SSCC may reproduce, in printed or electronic form, all or part of the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the promotion of the club and to effectively operate

    and promote its competitions.

II. CATEGORIES

1. There are two categories of competition:
   (1) Prints and (2) Projected Images. Each includes monochrome and color images.

2. Entries in all categories must have been created by the entrant.

III. LEVELS

1. Each category of competition (Prints and Projected Images) has two levels: Novice and Advanced. (See Addendum A below for the Beginner Level Rules, which are technically not a part of these Official Competition Rules but, rather, an unofficial supplement to them.)

2. A member's level standing in one category has no bearing on that member's standing in any other category.

3. A member may begin competing at either level of any category and may voluntarily move to the next higher level at any time. However, a member who has entered images at a higher level may not thereafter enter at a lower level. It is the member's responsibility to ensure that his/her entries are properly recorded and entered into the correct competition level.

4. Whenever there are insufficient entries to hold a Novice competition, a Novice member may choose to enter images in the Advanced level competition for that competition without affecting his/her status at the Novice level. Any points awarded to the Novice member in that higher level competition will be tallied as Novice level points.

5. Point scores are recorded and tallied by the Competition Chairman and SSCC Historian. 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 level.

6. After receiving the SSCC Master of Photography Award, a member must thereafter compete in the Advanced level in all categories. The move to the Advanced level becomes effective in the club year following the year in which the 200 points total is achieved.

IV PREPARATION OF COMPETITION ENTRIES

1. For prints (at Novice and Advanced levels), printing must be done by, or under the direction of, the entrant. For film, initial processing of negatives 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.

2. For projected images, any image editing or manipulation of digital images must be done by the entrant. Images captured on film may be processed and scanned by a commercial lab. Any further steps in the production of an entry must be done under the direction of the entrant.

3. Print entries must be securely attached to either a board or a clean mat, preferably both, so that prints do not come loose. The purpose of this requirement is to effectively present the print, to provide rigidity when on display during the competition, and not to harm the prints above or below it in a stack. Prints must be of a size acceptable for the club's print viewing box (approx. 24" high); total print area may not exceed 16" x 20". A sequence of related prints, mounted on one board, will be considered as a single entry. For both levels, the combined picture area of this sequence may not exceed 16" x 20". Framing is prohibited. There are to be no hooks, substances, or protruding objects on the mount board that might scratch, mar, or otherwise damage other entries.

4. On the back of the print, the following information must be legibly included: The entrant's name and level, the title of the image, the date of the competition in which the image is being entered, and an arrow indicating the top of the print. SSCC will provide a label template so that all members can supply the required information on the back of prints in a consistent way.

5. Digital images must conform to the technical specifications provided by the Competition Chairman and published in the *Cable Release* as well as in the Member Handbook and on the SSCC web site.

V MONTHLY COMPETITIONS

1. Competition schedule: Projected Image

(both color and monochrome) and Print (both color and monochrome) competitions are to 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.

2. Number of entries that may be submitted: The maximum number of entries a member may submit in each category is two.

3. Minimum number of entries to hold a competition: 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. Log-in procedure for prints at competition meetings: Prior to the competition, each entrant must ensure that his/her name and the title of each of their print entries are recorded in the appropriate competition registers as maintained by the Competition Chairman. Proper submission of digital images generates automatic registration. An Advanced level image entered into a lower level will be disqualified.

5. Log-in time for prints at competition meeting: All prints must be logged in no later than five minutes before the starting time of the meeting. If a member is unavoidably delayed, his prints may be included in the competition at the discretion of the Competition Chairman.

6. Number of times one image may be entered in competitions: One image may be entered in competitions no more than three times total, across all categories, across all years of membership.

7. Re-entering a winning image in another category: No entry that has won an award in an SSCC monthly competition may be re-entered in another category.

8. What constitutes a repeat image: Repeat images are identical or nearly identical images. (For example, with the photographer standing in one place, pictures of the same subject may be nearly identical though they will have different file or frame numbers. A previously submitted image can be transformed by cropping, rotating, etc. as to make it a different image.)

9. Identifying repeat images: Each photographer is required to check his / her entries for repeat images, whether identical or nearly identical. However, it is up to the Competition Chairman, in conjunction with the SSCC Historian, to identify images submitted more than three times.

10. Consequences of submitting repeat images: On the first occurrence of a member submitting an entry more than three times, the entrant is given a warning. Any subsequent submission of the image results in the loss of all points earned by that image.

11. Awards: Ribbons are presented in each competition based on the total number of entries in each level. Awards are valued as:

    1st Place - 6 points

    2nd Place - 4 points

    3rd Place - 2 points

    HM (Honorable Mention)- 1 point

12. Number of awards given per number of entries:

    4-5 entries: only 1st place

6-8 entries: 1st & 2nd place

9-11 entries: 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place

12 -14 entries: 1 HM

15 – 24 entries: 2HM

25 – 34 entries: 3 HM

35 – 44 entries: 4 HM

45 – 54 entries: 5 HM
The number of HMs awarded in each category is based on 10% of the total entries in each category rounded up from odd multiples of five. No HMs are 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.

13. Competition topics: The Board of Directors may assign not more than four of the monthly competitions to a defined subject and/or technique. (The October competition is always on the topic of Nature.) All other competitions are to be open to all subject areas (open topic). Assigned topic competitions for the following club year are scheduled at a Board Meeting in April and announced in the May *Cable Release*.

14. Annual Nature competition: The topic for all October competitions (i.e., Projected Images and Prints) must always be Nature for all levels and in all categories and held on the same meeting night. The Joyce Bayley Award is presented to the "Best of Show" as determined by the Judge. Entries must conform to the SSCC definition of the Nature topic.

15. Rescheduling competitions: If a competition is not held, for any reason, it may be rescheduled at the discretion of the President.

VI 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 are no level distinctions. Sets of images (intended to tell a story, make a statement, or support a theme) are presented to the Judge as a group. Individual images that have won in prior monthly or interclub competitions are eligible for inclusion as part of a set, but no image that has been entered in a prior Body of Work competition is eligible. Entry of an image into this competition as part of a set has no bearing on its eligibility for entry into monthly or inter-club competitions. Makers must 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 HMs are awarded in competitions with fewer than 12 entries, no 3rd place with fewer than nine entries, and no 2nd place with fewer than six entries.

3. Print Competition: Each member may enter up to two sets consisting of 3 to 5 images in the Print Body of Work competition. Images must be individually mounted. However, multiple images mounted on one board are allowed and are considered a single image.

4. Projected Image Competition: Each member may enter up to two sets, each consisting of 3 or 4 images in the Projected Image Body of Work competition.

VII 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 levels.

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.

4. No points are awarded.

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

6. Recognition, but not ribbons or points, is determined 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 is presented to the creator of the image that, in the opinion of the Judge of the Year-End competition, is considered to be the "Best of Show."

VIII PHOTOGRAPHERS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

1. For each level within each competition category, a Photographer of the Year award is presented at the year-end banquet.

2. The awards are determined on the basis of all points earned during the club year just ended. A Photographer of the Year award may not be presented in a level/category if no member has earned at least a total of 15 points in that level/category.

3. Point totals are calculated as follows:

    a. Novice Level:

    All points earned in SSCC monthly competitions in that club year, plus all points earned as an SSCC entrant in Board-approved inter-club competitions in equivalent categories, any level.

    b. Advanced Level

    All points earned in SSCC for the Advanced level in that club year plus all points earned as an SSCC entrant in Board-approved inter-club competitions in equivalent categories, any level.

    c. If a member moves from the Novice level to Advanced during a club year
    All points earned at the Advanced level and one half of all points earned in the Novice level of the same category in that club year, plus all points earned in Board-approved inter-club competitions in equivalent categories, any level. Such a member may be considered only for an advanced photographer of the year award.

4. In the event of a tie for a Photographer of the Year, the winners are determined as follows:

    First tie-breaker: the most 1st place awards
    Second tie-breaker: the most 2nd place awards

    Third tie-breaker: the most 3rd place awards

    Fourth tie breaker: the most honorable mention awards

If a tie remains, there are co-winners.

5. Inter-Club awards earn points toward an SSCC Photographer of the Year award as follows:

    1st place – 7 points

    2nd place – 5 points

    3rd place – 3 points

    HM – 2 points

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

IX PHOTOGRAPHIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS ON BASIS OF POINTS EARNED

1. SSCC Star Merit Award: For each 35 points scored in monthly club and inter-club competitions, total accumulation in all levels and categories over any period of time while a member in good standing of SSCC, a member is awarded a Star Merit Award. Stars are awarded up to a maximum of five (for a 175 point accumulation).

2. SSCC Master of Photography Award: Upon accumulating 200 total points in the SSCC Star Award System, an SSCC member is awarded an SSCC Master of Photography plaque.

3. SSCC Grand Master of Photography Award: Upon accumulating 400 total points in the SSCC Star Award System, a member is awarded the SSCC Grand Master of Photography plaque.

4. SSCC Hall of Fame Award: Upon accumulating 800 total points in the SSCC Star Award System, a member is awarded the SSCC Hall of Fame plaque. The Competition Chairman and/or the Historian must maintain records necessary for the administration of Photographic Excellence awards.

X 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 makes 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 is be no award for that year.

"SSCC Comp Rules" (07/00)
Revised (04/02)
Revised (04/03)
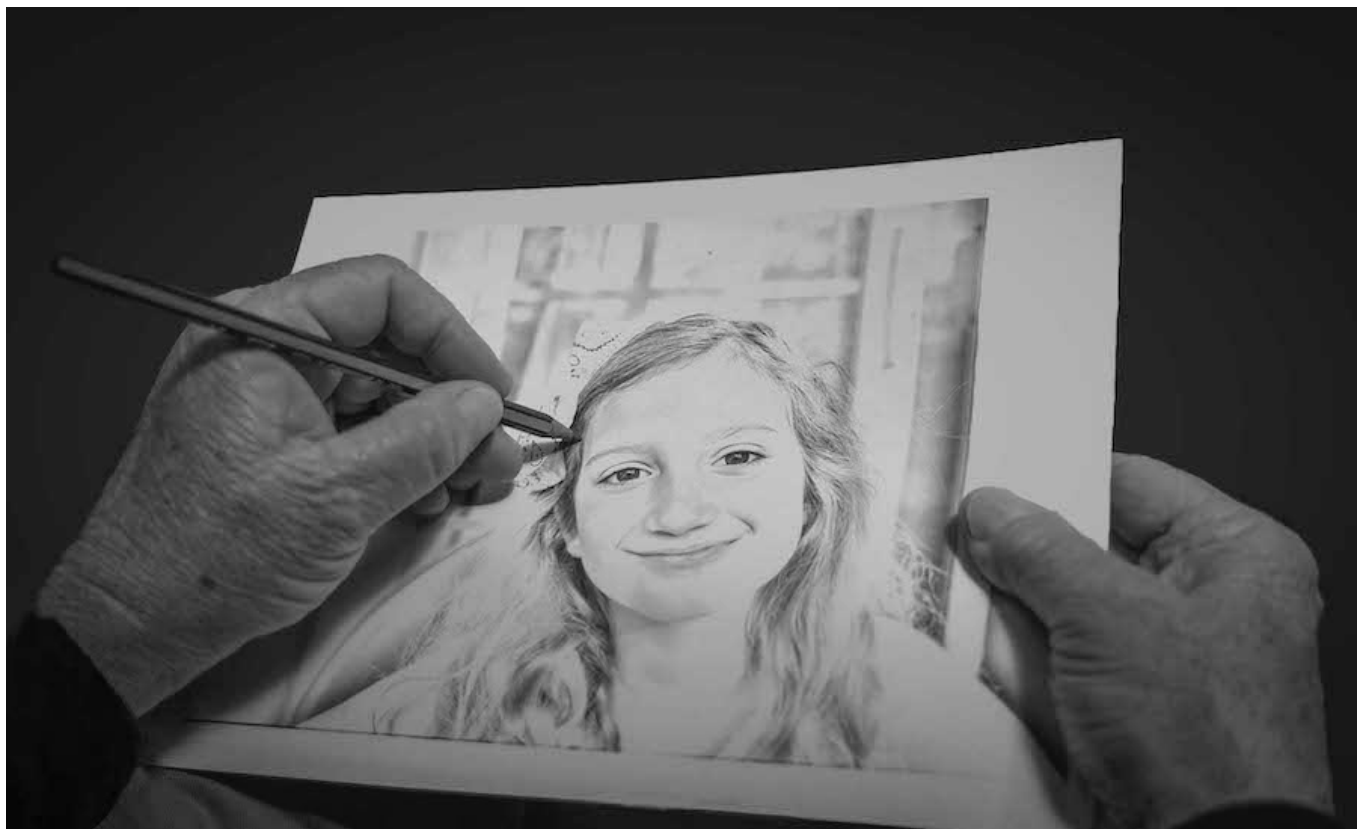Revised (09/2004)
Revised (04/2007)
Revised (08/08)
Revised (08/09)
Revised (08/14)
Revised (07/15)
Unofficial Addendum re Beginner and note about Print Competition Frequency (08/20)
Unofficial Addendum re Beginner (08/21)

Lisa Auerbach

Addendum A to the Competition Rules: Beginner Level Rules

Members who have never been awarded points in a Novice or Advanced level competition but would like to have their images critiqued by competition judges may enter them in the Beginner level, as follows:

- A member may enter up to two Beginner images per category (Prints and Projected).
- Beginner submissions shall conform to the requirements contained in the "Preparation of Competition Entries" section of the Competition Rules. ("Beginner" should be used in the identifying information for each image in place of "Novice" or "Advanced.").
- Beginner entries will be critiqued by the competition judge, as if they were entered in the Novice or Advanced competitions.
- If more than two Beginner images are entered in a category at a competition, the judge will select two Beginner images for Honorable Mention, but no club competition points will be awarded.
- Members who enter images in the Beginner level may join the Novice or Advanced levels at any subsequent competition. Entry in a Beginner level competition is not a prerequisite to joining the Novice or Advanced levels directly, as per Competition Rules.
- Although Competition Rules limit the number of times an image may be entered in Novice or Advanced competitions, an entry made at the Beginner level will not count against those limits.

Wendy Kates

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 SSCC 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 SSCC?

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 her, make her go "ahh", 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 and **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 her 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 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.

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,

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

look and listen, but most of all work at it and make your next entry a "10."

David Blass

BEGINNER, NOVICE AND ADVANCED DEFINED

Participants in SSCC competitions have, from the earliest days of the club, entered competitions at either the **Novice** or **Advanced** level. These are described below. However, in addition to these official competition levels, in October 2020 we introduced an exciting addition to our competition nights. We appreciate that some members (particularly those new to the club), may be a little intimidated about entering images in competitions. So, to ease the glide-path, we created a **Beginner** category, that offers the benefits of a competition without having to compete against more experienced photographers.

The Beginner category is open to any club member who has not yet received a ribbon in any club competition. Your images will be critiqued by the competition judge, just as if you had entered the Novice or Advanced competitions. If you enter an image in the Beginner category, you may join the Novice or Advanced categories at any subsequent competition. (And even if you choose not to participate in a Beginner competition, you may still join the other categories directly, as per current competition rules.)

So, please have at it in the Beginner competitions. Despite any trepidation you may feel, competitions are an extremely fun and valuable part of participation in the Club!

"Novice" means a person who is relatively new to photography or who may be relatively inexperienced with certain kinds of photography equipment. But within SSCC, "novice" also means a member who has only earned up to 36 points cumulatively in the monthly members' competitions. Such a person may already have considerable experience in photography, but perhaps he or she doesn't enter competitions often enough to earn points at a faster rate.

New and even existing members whose experience and ability would make them feel comfortable competing at the advanced level are encouraged to do so. Just speak to the competition chairman to have your name placed on the advanced roster. Remember, though, once you move up and compete at the advanced level, you can't go back to Novice!

The "Advanced" designation likewise has two meanings. It can represent a member who has earned 37 or more points in either the projected or prints competitions. But it can also be a member, regardless of points, who might be a retired pro or who has long experience as a serious amateur.

New members, joining SSCC for the first time, may want to talk to the competition chairman to determine the right level for them to enter competitions.

The bottom line here is that both levels have a range of proficiencies. The ribbons and points shouldn't be the central focus of competitions. What really matters is the enjoyment of doing photography, of learning and improving, and of sharing these experiences in a community of like-minded folks.

* If a novice is awarded 36 points in either the print or projected categories, the novice must join the Advanced level in that category. So, for example, if a novice has 36 points in the print category and 20 points in the Projected category, the novice must join "Advanced" in the print category, but can remain a "Novice" in the Projected category until he/she receives 36 points in the Projected category.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE RULES

Members are invited to email any questions about the rules to the *Cable Release* editor (cablereleaseeditor@ssccphotography.org), 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 a previous 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 the Education Committee 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 2014)*" clearly state, "any image editing or manipulation of digital images must be done by the entrant." That includes images shot on film and later scanned.

Rules Guy

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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. Longtime 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 his/her entries with the judge until judging of ALL categories is 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

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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 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 the 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.)

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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 available to all members, and to the general public, on the club website under _"Competion/Official Rules and Awards"_.

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…_ To encourage creativity and exploration of new technologies, there is no restriction on the amount or type of computer or darkroom manipulation performed by the entrant on an image.
>
> _And in Section II. Categories, Items 1 and 2…_ For prints (at Novice and Advanced levels), printing must be done by, or under the direction of, the entrant. For film, initial processing of negatives 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._
>
> For projected images, any image editing or manipulation of digital images must be done by the entrant. Images captured on film may be processed and scanned by a commercial lab. _Any further steps in the production of an entry must be done under the direction of 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.

     Rules Guy

DIGITAL PROJECTION SUBMISSIONS

The requirements for submitting images for digital projection are:

- Submission Deadline: Midnight 1 week before competition (usually SSCC's Speaker Night)
    - Send submissions to *competition@ssccphotography.org*
    - Images (per member per competition): maximum of 2
- File Format: JPEG
- File Size: 1000 KB (max)
- Recommended approximate dimensions of 1920 x 1440 pixels, reflecting the resolution of our projector.
- File Name: **Level ~Maker's Name~Image Title**.jpg
    - Example: Advanced~Tom Jones~Washington Landscape.jpg
    - The tilde "**~**" character separates the 3 sub-fields of the file name
    - **Level** – "Novice" or "Advanced" (capitalization not required)
    - **Maker's Name –** spaces allowed
    - Please use the same name throughout the year to aid record keeping.
    - **Image Title** – spaces allowed
    - DO NOT embed commas (,) or tilde (~) in any of the File Name sub-fields.

The "**File Name**" requirements are very important for running the competition. Please be careful when entering this information. Nonconforming filenames make it very difficult to track your entry. Use a tilde (~), NOT a dash (-) to separate the subfields (**Level~Maker's Name~Image Title**) of the filename. The Competition Chair will not make changes to the filenames after submission, so please check them carefully before submitting.

The computer and software will automatically rescale your image for projection. The computer we use for competition night will automatically add black bars at the side of the photo based on the photo's aspect ratio. If for artistic reasons you wish your image to be presented at a size smaller than the screen's full height or width, then you must size your image and position it within a **1920 pixels wide x 1440 pixels high black** background image (canvas size in Photoshop).

Be sure to follow file size requirements – these are *solved for you* in the following two articles by David Terao. The first link is for PC users, and the second is for Mac users:

CHANGING THE FILE SIZE & FILE NAME FOR SSCC COMPETITIONS – **PC VERSION**

http://www.ssccphotography.org/changing-the-file-size-and-file-name-for-sscc-competitions-by-david-terao/

CHANGING THE FILE SIZE & FILE NAME FOR SSCC COMPETITIONS – **MAC VERSION**

http://www.ssccphotography.org/resizing-and-renaming-projected-images-for-competitions-using-a-mac-by-david-terao/

Questions: The Competition Committee at competition@ssccphotography.org

PRINT IMAGE ENTRY GUIDELINES

The guidelines for submitting print entries are contained in Section lV of the Official Competition Rules and Awards, which can be found on the club's webpage and in the club's handbook. More info on the back of prints is required. In addition to the old requirement (name, title, and an arrow indicating the top of the print), you must also include your level and the date of the competition. The template provided on the SSCC website at website http://www.ssccphotography.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/PrintCompetitionLabels-8-16.pdf,

# SSCC Print Competition Label Templates

Silver Spring Camera Club

Please Print Clearly!

1. NAME: _____

2. LEVEL: NOVICE ____ ADVANCED ____

3. TITLE OF IMAGE:

_____

4. COMPETITION DATE:

____/____/____ (MM/DD/YY)

5. DATE(S) WHEN THIS IMAGE WAS ENTERED IN PREVIOUS SSCC COMPETITIONS (PRINT OR DIGITAL):

____ / ____   ____ / ____ (MM/YY)

1ST TIME   2ND TIME

TOP OF PHOTO

Silver Spring Camera Club

Please Print Clearly!

1. NAME: _____

2. LEVEL: NOVICE ____ ADVANCED ____

3. TITLE OF IMAGE:

_____

4. COMPETITION DATE:

____/____/____ (MM/DD/YY)

5. DATE(S) WHEN THIS IMAGE WAS ENTERED IN PREVIOUS SSCC COMPETITIONS (PRINT OR DIGITAL):

____ / ____   ____ / ____ (MM/YY)

1ST TIME   2ND TIME

TOP OF PHOTO

Silver Spring Camera Club

Please Print Clearly!

1. NAME: _____

2. LEVEL: NOVICE ____ ADVANCED ____

3. TITLE OF IMAGE:

_____

4. COMPETITION DATE:

____/____/____ (MM/DD/YY)

5. DATE(S) WHEN THIS IMAGE WAS ENTERED IN PREVIOUS SSCC COMPETITIONS (PRINT OR DIGITAL):

____ / ____   ____ / ____ (MM/YY)

1ST TIME   2ND TIME

TOP OF PHOTO

Silver Spring Camera Club

Please Print Clearly!

1. NAME: _____

2. LEVEL: NOVICE ____ ADVANCED ____

3. TITLE OF IMAGE:

_____

4. COMPETITION DATE:

____/____/____ (MM/DD/YY)

5. DATE(S) WHEN THIS IMAGE WAS ENTERED IN PREVIOUS SSCC COMPETITIONS (PRINT OR DIGITAL):

____ / ____   ____ / ____ (MM/YY)

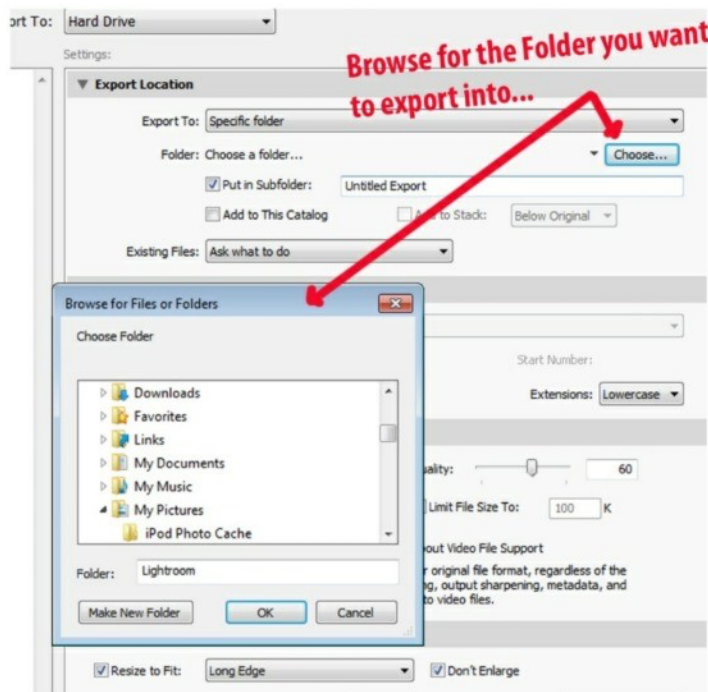1ST TIME   2ND TIME

TOP OF PHOTO

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.
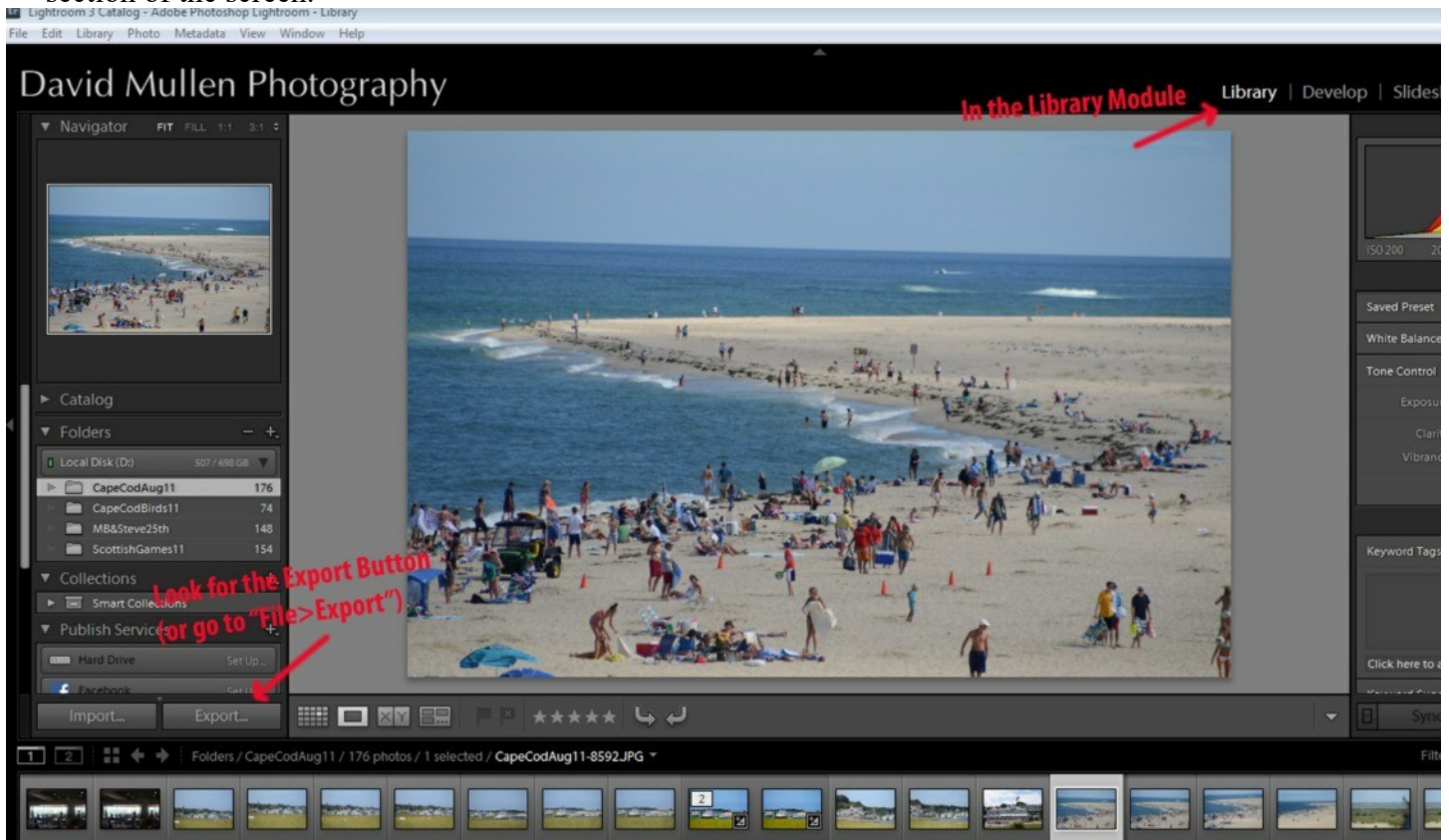
In the Export Dialogue Box, choose "Export to Hard Drive" and choose the folder into which you wish to export your photograph.
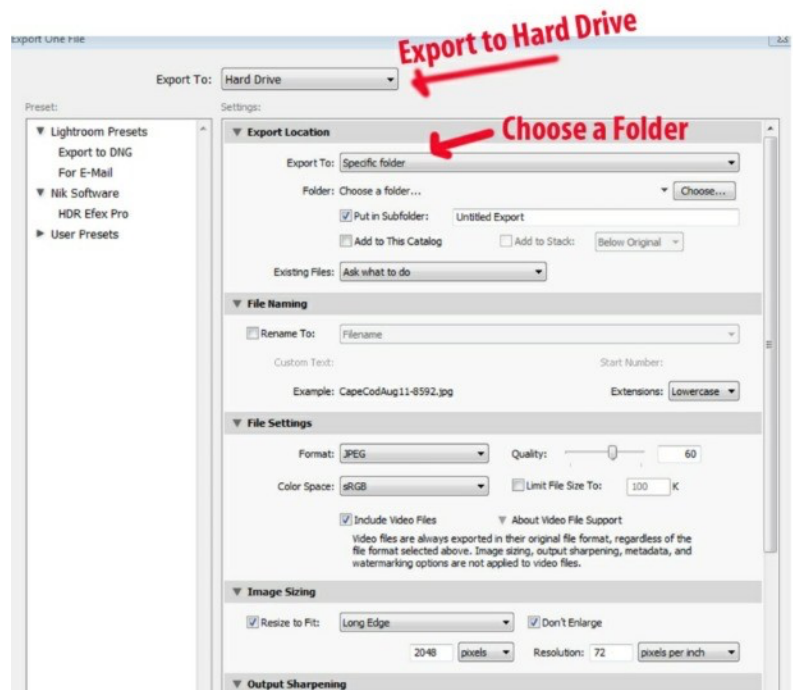
You may have to Browse around a bit to find the folder into which you wish to export, or you may create a new folder.

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. (Level~Name~Title)

You've fixed the format (JPG), the color space (sRGB), and the file size (1000 KB).

And you've sized the photograph according to the specs (1920 pixels maximum width if landscape orientation, 1440 pixels maximum height if portrait orientation). While we often work at and print at 300 pixels per inch, 90 pixels per inch is all that our current projector shows, so having a higher resolution just increases JPG compression and wastes space.
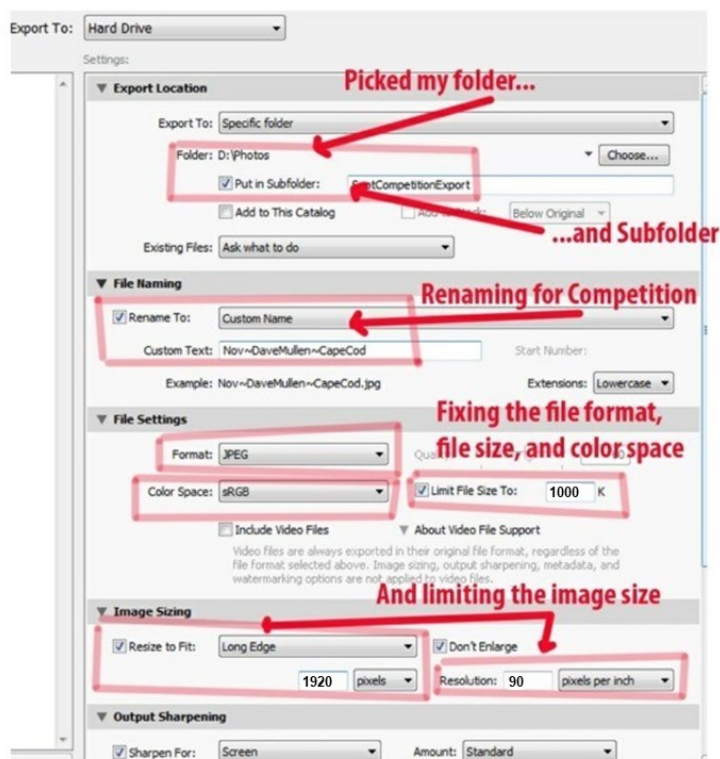
Then the final touches… sharpening, metadata, etc.

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 competition@ssccphotography.org.
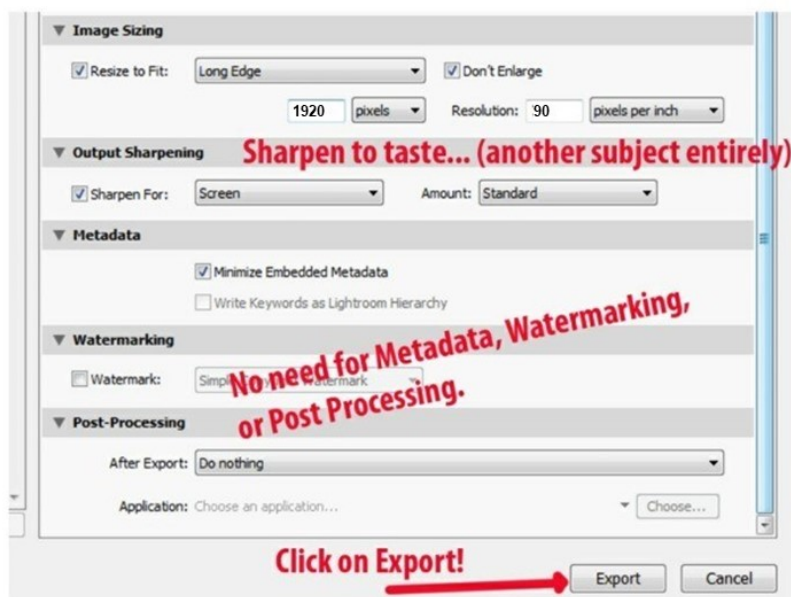
SIZING IMAGES FOR DIGITAL COMPETITION IN PHOTOSHOP Jim Rogers

This Photoshop 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=1920, H=1440

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 12, sRGB, W=1920, H=1440
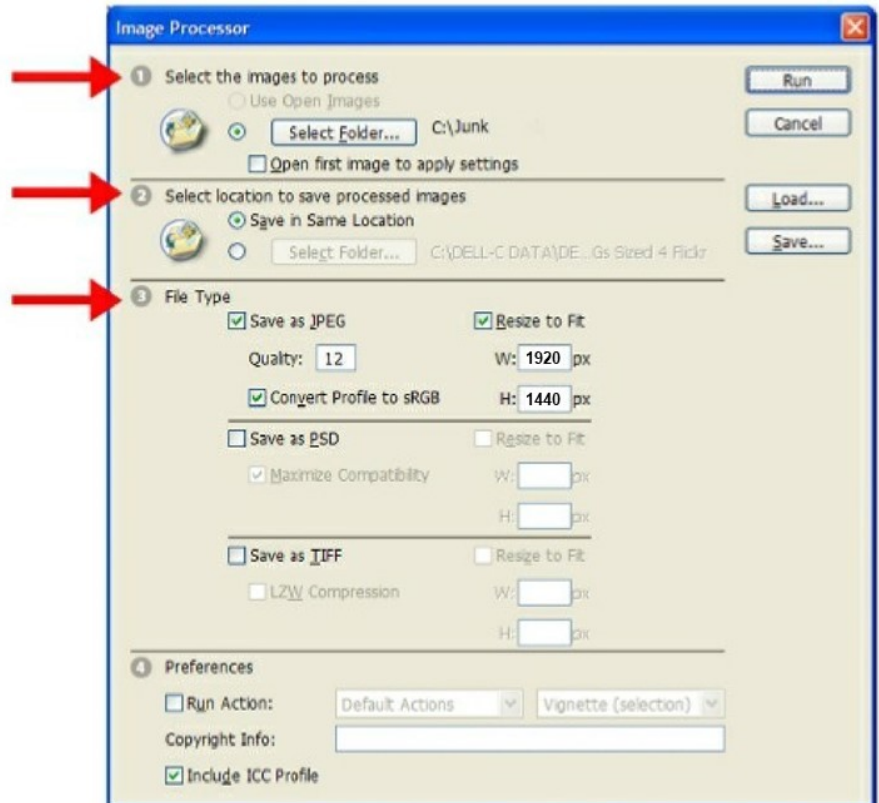
I *always* put all the images to be sized
into the same folder and select "Save in Same Location". This creates a folder (named JPG) in the folder containing the images being processed, making organization much easier.

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.

END OF YEAR COMPETITION GUIDELINES

This article contains what you need to know about the Year-End Competition. Remember, this competition is not about selecting the best entries for a single month, but rather selecting the best entries from the monthly competitions for the entire club year (September through May).

Requirements:

- Each member may submit up to 5 projected and 5 print images from those that s/he entered in monthly club competitions this current season. Eligible submissions need not have won an award in the monthly competition(s) in which they were submitted. But please remember — images submitted for the year-end competition must be identical to those submitted in the regular season competitions and entries must be submitted in the same categories (print or projected) in which they were originally submitted.

For Projected Images:

- Please email your Submission Form list of up to 5 selected projected entries to COMPETITION @ SSCCPHOTOGRAPHY.ORG. Only the titles of your selections are needed.
- Please do not resend any projected images; the images that you previously submitted will be used.
- ***The selection of projected images must be sent by midnight (11:59 pm) on the FRIDAY immediately following the Thursday competition night in May.***

For Printed Images:

- Loose prints will not be accepted. They must be packaged in a portfolio, cardboard slip-case, or even a plastic bag with your name clearly marked on it (the "print package"). Only one member's submissions may be placed in a single package.
- The appropriate print submission form and attached labels on the backs of the prints must accompany the print package.
- **Complete print packages will be accepted at the THURSDAY competition night or the previous Thursday** club meeting in May. If you anticipate including an entry from the May monthly competition (Monochrome), please wait until the end of competition night on **the SECOND THURSDAY (competition night)** to submit your print package with the May entry included. Competition prints will be available for pick up at the club's year end celebration in June.

SEND AN EMAIL TO SSCC HISTORIAN, NORM BERNACHE (historian @ ssccphotography.org), if you would like a list of all of your print and projected images submitted from September to April of the current club year.

As in other competitions, the judge will select first, second, and third place winners, and as many honorable mentions as the number of entries requires. The winners will be announced at the end of year celebration. The judging is "closed"; it is not held at a regular club meeting. There are no ribbons or points awarded; however, a Best in Show award will be presented, known as the Len Tuchin Award.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Competition Chair, at COMPETITION @ SSCCPHOTOGRAPHY.ORG.

PRINT THIS PAGE AND THEN FILL IT OUT.

SSCC PRINT SUBMISSION FORM

Please list the prints you are submitting for the year-end competition.

Prints must be brought to the SSCC meeting on either the THURSDAY competition night or the previous Thursday club meeting of May. Print labels, required on each print, can be found at http://www.ssccphotography.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/PrintCompetitionLabels-8-16.pdf .

Advanced or Novice (indicate one)

Member Name :

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

SILVER SPRING CAMERA CLUB CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

Adopted May 7, 1992.

Revised 2007.
Revised April 14, 2016.
Revised October 11, 2018.
Revised April 20, 2023.

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

Article II - CLUB EMBLEM
Section l. 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 may be denied to applicants, or rescinded from members, 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, who shall serve one-year terms 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. Shall collect and report on the results of votes.

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

Section 2. The duties of vacant officers shall be delegated by the President or Vice-President acting as President.

Section 3. In the event of an Officer vacancy, the successor Officer shall be elected by membership and serve out the remainder of the vacated term.

Article VI - EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
Section l. The Executive Council shall consist of the Officers and Directors of the Club.

Section 2. There shall be three Directors serving 2-year terms. A Director cannot concurrently serve as a Chair or Officer. In the event of a Director vacancy, the successor Director shall be elected by membership and 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, if Council quorum is met. The decision and the results of the poll shall be reported and may be considered for Board re-vote 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 permanent and standing 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 at least one 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. The minutes shall be published in Newsletter and on the website.

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 override the decision of the Board on a specific question, a petition signed by one-fifth of 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 shall be required to override the Board.

Article VIII - MEETINGS

Section l. Regular Club meetings of the general membership shall be on no fewer than two Thursdays of each month on dates determined by the Board, 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 AND VOTING

Section 1: For membership votes, Board of Directors votes, and Executive Council votes, the following shall apply: People in each group may vote if in attendance, by absentee, or by proxy. The means of attendance (such as in-person or virtual), absentee voting (such as written or electronic), and proxy voting (such as agreed to verbally) shall be determined by the Board. Votes cast by any of the approved means will be equally valid and shall count towards quorum. Absentee votes may be submitted directly to the secretary and may not be changed after submission to the secretary. Alternatively, a voter may assign their proxy to a person who will vote in-attendance on the behalf of the absent voter as the proxy holder sees fit. Proxies may not be contingent upon any circumstances.

Section 2. A quorum for the transaction of business requiring a vote at a regular club meeting shall be one-quarter of the membership in good standing. The presence of a quorum shall be deemed by the two members of the Executive Council.

Section 3. A quorum of the Board shall be five, one of whom must be an Officer and one of whom must be a Director.

Section 4. A quorum of the Executive Council shall be four.

Article X - OFFICIAL PUBLICATION & WEBSITE

Section l. The official publication of the Club shall be a newsletter. The Newsletter 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 Newsletter shall be distributed 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 Newsletter 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 Newsletter shall be required to obtain concurrence from the Executive Council prior to rejection of any submission as unfit for publication.

Section 4. The official website for the Club (currently SSCCPhotography.org) shall be noted in all official Club announcements, recruitment fliers, and each issue of the Club's Newsletter. The Club website includes all internal files accessible from the navigation menu including web-based Newsletters. The Club website shall contain the following categories of information: contact information, Constitution and By-Laws, and Rules of Competition and Awards. The website may contain Monthly Winners, Current and Past Club Newsletters, Current Handbook, Calendar of Club Events, and other topics at the discretion of the Board. The internet term website shall be construed as desired by the Board, to allow the use of alternative contemporary or future platforms.

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 for returning members shall be due and payable by the first regular Club meeting of each fiscal year. New members are permitted to join at any time during the fiscal year.

   A.   New and returning members may only compete once dues are paid at least one week prior to competition.
   B.   Lapsed members and non-members may not compete or vote on Club matters.

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 the Newsletter issued immediately after adoption and immediately prior to the first regular Club meeting of the fiscal year.

Section 3. Returning members who have not paid their dues by October 31st of the current fiscal year shall be dropped from membership and may be removed from communications. Such members may be reinstated upon full payment of current fiscal year dues.

Section 4. Special assessments must be approved by two-thirds of the full Board of Directors, and must be announced to the general membership in the Newsletter prior to the date of any such assessment. All members who fail to pay the assessment by that date shall be rescinded as a member of the Club for the remainder of the Club's fiscal year.

Article XIV - COMMITTEES

Section 1. Permanent Committees:

   A. The Nominations and Elections 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 or by proxy within one week of that date. Neither the slate nor floor nominations need a second; however, each candidate must state a willingness to serve. The Nominations and Elections committee shall conduct elections during the first regular Club meeting in May.

Section 2. 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.

Section 3: 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. Program Committee: Shall recruit, schedule, and submit a biography for each program speaker and competition judge.

B. Education Committee: Shall plan educational meetings, at least once a month for those months in which there are Club competitions.

C. Finance Committee: The Treasurer shall be Chairperson. Other members shall include the Vice-President, a Director, and 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 club competitions.
2) Coordinate with the Archives Committee for recording and status of member points and competition levels.
3) Developing the Rules of Competition and Awards 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 Newsletter issued immediately prior to the first regular Club meeting of the fiscal year. The new rules will be posted on the Club website.
4) Determining eligibility of entries and informing judges of S.S.C.C. competition and judging criteria.
5) Forwarding the results of all competitions to the Newsletter 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 informed of Club activities and procedures. This shall include either printed handouts or electronic communications, and introduction to committee chairpersons.

G. Publication Committee: The Newsletter editor shall be the chairperson. This committee is responsible for the editing, publication, and distribution of the Newsletter plus other publicity of Club activities as necessary.

H. Social and Refreshments Committee: This committee shall plan refreshments at select regular meetings and plan Club socials, either at regular meetings or specially scheduled dates and locations, as approved by the Board. This committee shall procure, prepare and serve refreshments at such events when requested by the Board.

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

J. 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.

K. Archives Committee: The Chairperson shall serve as the Club Historian maintaining records of all Club and inter-club competitions, including a list of members competing, entries, awards, and scoring, as outlined in the Club's Rules of Competition and Awards.

L. Affiliations Committee: Representatives of the Club to outside organizations, as authorized by Article XVI, shall form a committee. Representatives of the Club to outside organizations may report at Board meetings, Club meetings, in Newsletters, and by electronic means, as appropriate.

M. Web Committee: The Web manager(s) shall create/initiate/solicit/update/revise the site's content, organization, access rights, and design of the club's official website (Article X Section 4) as requested by the Executive Council.

Article XV - INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Officers shall be announced to the membership in June, and shall assume office on the first day of the fiscal year.

Article XVI - AFFILIATION

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

Article XVII - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present, voting absentee, or having delegated their vote to a proxy. 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 Newsletter and not later than the second regular Club meeting following such publication.

Article XVII – 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 20, 2023.

David Terao