



AN INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to provide a brief introduction to Sparta Camera Club. It includes brief descriptions of the club's management and its programs.

The Club

We are proud to have members of all ages, all skill levels and all levels of photographic equipment. We are a friendly group where everyone will offer help to others. In addition to the enjoyment members get from their membership most want to take better photographs and almost all will say that being in the club has helped them to be better photographers.

We are members of the Photographic Society of America (PSA), and the New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs (NJFCC).

We are a non-political and non-religious organization.

Amateur and professional

The club makes no distinction between amateurs and professionals. We are fortunate to have several members who are highly skilled and who are willing to pass on their knowledge and experience to others.

Club Management

The club is managed by four club officers who make up the Executive Committee.

These are:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

All four officers are elected for one year terms and are voted into office at the Annual Business Meeting held each year in June. Any club member can be nominated for any of these positions.

The officers are assisted by a club committee of approximately six members. They are appointed by the President. Generally committee members have specific areas of activity that they are responsible for. The committee meets as directed by the President.



AN INTRODUCTION

Programs

The club has a full and varied program of activities. At the regular club meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays (September - May) it has guest speakers, competitions and critiques. It also runs workshops and field trips spread over the year.

Guest Speakers

We have about four guest speakers each season. The subjects are deliberately varied and the speakers always notable photographers.

Competitions

The club runs approximately four themed competitions each year. Digital entries can be sent in by email, or prints brought directly to the meeting. Ribbons are awarded. Our competitions are always friendly and provide a valuable learning experience. Members can enter at one of the levels, "beginner", "intermediate" and "advanced". See the separate "Judging and scoring" and "competition rules" for more information. The judges are not club members. They are usually experienced in judging club competitions and notable photographers in Northern New Jersey.

Critiques

In our critiques members show their photographs (digital or prints) for comments by other club members. The members explain what they like about the particular image and may offer suggestions for making it even better.



AN INTRODUCTION

EXPO

The EXPO is the club's largest annual event. It is a photography competition that is open to both members and non members.

Any photographer can enter up to 5 PRINTS (no digital) for \$3 each entry

It consists of:

- An open judging session at a regular club meeting. Everyone, members and non members, is invited to watch as the entries are evaluated, hear the judges scores and see what ribbons are awarded.
- A one day exhibit of all entries in the Ambulance Squad Building in Sparta with a reception for all photographers and their guests.
- An opportunity to attend a critique of the entries by an experienced photographer.
- A four week exhibit in December of all the entries at the Public Gallery on the second floor of the Sussex County Judicial Center in Newton.

Workshops

Workshops are events that may appeal to smaller groups of members. These are usually focused on specific photographic techniques, software used to edit or categorize digital images, matting and framing prints, how to take better photographs or how to get more from the camera. These may incur a small cost to cover meeting facilities and materials.

Field trips

The club has several field trips each season. They are lead by individual members. Some may be quite small groups while others can be up to twenty members. Recent field trips include The Cloisters in New York City, and Steam Town in Scranton, PA. Ride sharing is organized where possible.

Annual Business Meeting

This is held in June. The main business is the election of club officers for the following season and a discussion involving all members as preliminary planning for the programs going forward. The handover to the newly elected officers takes place immediately after their confirmation.



AN INTRODUCTION

Club Web Site (www.spartacameraclub.org)

The web site has:

- Details of meetings and other coming events
- A gallery of club photographs
- Facilities for joining the club and renewing membership
- List of members with contact information (members only)
- Forums (members only)
- Helpful video tutorials (members only)
- Copies of the following
 - Club Constitution
 - Judging and Scoring Competitions
 - In-Club Competition rules
 - Specifications for digital entries
 - This Document

Additional Information

The club has an important goal of helping all members to be better photographers. Our programs are focused on this. If you have any questions about the club, your own photography or a particular image or technique - please ask. Someone in the club will have the information you need.

Unsure who to ask? Email info@spartacameraclub.org and you'll be put in contact with someone who can help.

We welcome feedback from members on all aspects of the clubs activities. If you have an idea for a program or field trip, if something we do is not working for you, or if you just have something to share tell an officer or email info@spartacameraclub.org