

# the Projector

a newsletter for PSA Member Organizations • Spring 2009

## **Photographic Society of America 's ...**

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Member Organizations of PSA include  
Camera Clubs, Camera Club Councils,  
Chapters, Federations, and Associations.

## **Camera Club numbers grow**

*by Sharp Todd, APSA, PPSA*

Over the past couple of years there has been a tremendous growth in the number of camera clubs and councils or other organized groups of camera clubs! This is due to the work of our Membership VP, Joanne Stolte, APSA, EPSA, and her organization. Now the need for new as well as old member clubs to get involved in PSA is very important. In May's Journal I authored a two-page article, "OPPORTUNITIES for Chapters, Clubs, and Councils". This article listed more than fifteen activities--benefits photographic organizations can get involved in. The more activities a member organization is involved in, the more value it gets from the PSA membership and the stronger the club will be. A brief recap of those benefits are: Division International/Interclub competitions, Web site and Newsletter Contests, Councils Challenge, Chapters Showcase, The PSA Youth Showcase, Club Judging services, PSA Club Forums, and a quarterly electronic club newsletter, the Projector. Please refer back to the May Journal issue for more details on all these great benefits of PSA membership. Another great place for information about club benefits and services is the PSA Club Services Website at <http://psa-clubservices.org>. A club with many activities is usually a strong club. •

## **Plan for PSA Information Distribution at Meetings**

*by Jean Timmermeister, FPSA, Secretary PSA*

Are you a PSA Representative for your group, club, or council? Or, are you responsible in your local PSA Chapter (which is for individual members of PSA in some areas of the US) for disseminating Photographic Society of America information?

The Headquarters office of the Photographic Society of America maintains supplies of PSA informational brochures, membership applications, audio/visual materials for rent, and almost anything a PSA "rep" might need to do the job. In recent times, most "reps" have not asked for Society materials as apparently they did not realize that such helps are available for the asking. While printed materials are often used by the Society's Region Directors, PSA Representatives have always had many informational brochures available for their use. They are still available! Plan now for the future: order supplies for your group.

If general information is wished, ask for the brochure entitled "If you love photography, you belong in PSA". Application cards for membership are always available and they fit right into the afore-mentioned brochure. Recent copies of the PSA Journal may be included in your request. Email the Society office at [HQ@PSA-photo.org](mailto:HQ@PSA-photo.org) or call (405) 843-1437 or send a letter: a staff member will arrange for a package to be sent out.

If your group needs programs, know that the PSA Services Vice President has been working diligently to provide CDs, DVDs, videos, etc., on many photographic topics for rent to organizations. The list of available titles is on the website ([www.psa-photo.org](http://www.psa-photo.org)) by going to Resources link and checking out the Audio/Visual section. Plan ahead so that there is no disappointment: don't wait until the last moment.

Use the helps that are available for PSA "reps": they are there just for the asking and have always been there. ●

## Hotel Reservations in West Yellowstone

by Gerry Emmerich, FPSA, EPSA Conventions Vice-President

**T**he 2009 Photographic Society of America (PSA) Conference is scheduled for September 20-26, 2009 at the Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort in West Yellowstone, Montana. The PSA guest room blocks at the Holiday Inn, Yellowstone Lodge, Clubhouse Inn, and Days Inn are completely booked for the conference week.

Additional room blocks at special PSA Conference rates are now available at two Best Western hotels in West Yellowstone – the Best Western Crosswinds and the Best Western Desert Inn. The Crosswinds is about two blocks north of the Holiday Inn, and the Desert Inn is about four blocks east of the Holiday Inn. The PSA group rate at the Crosswinds is \$99 plus tax, and the PSA group rate at the Desert Inn is \$119 plus tax. Because the Crosswinds is closed until mid-May, reservations for both the Best Western Crosswinds and the Best Western Desert Inn must be made by calling the reservations desk at the Desert Inn at 406-646-7376 and asking for the PSA group rate. Be sure to specify which hotel you would like to make a reservation. Reservations at the PSA group rate are available by telephone only. (The PSA group rate is not available online.)

There are also rooms available at a special PSA Conference rate at the West Yellowstone Comfort Inn, located about four blocks west of the Holiday Inn. The PSA group rate at the Comfort Inn is \$109 plus tax. Reservations at the Comfort Inn can be made by calling the Comfort Inn directly at 406-646-4212 and asking for the PSA group rate. Reservations at the PSA group rate are not available online.

Reservations for guest rooms at other hotels in West Yellowstone are available by calling West Yellowstone Central Reservations at 888-646-7077 or online at [www.westyellowstonereservations.com](http://www.westyellowstonereservations.com)

## So, the Club Joined PSA! Now What's Next?

by Jean Timmermeister, FPSA, Secretary PSA

**S**ometimes it is difficult for a club to know what to do with its membership in PSA and, worse, sometimes a photographer or two will assume that there is nothing but the PSA Journal for paying annual dues. In a time before websites, it may have been a little harder to figure out the offerings available to clubs with only the printed word, but a club that does not check [www.PSA-photo.org](http://www.PSA-photo.org) is missing out.

Beginning with the PSA Journal, a quarterly list of opportunities for clubs and individuals will be found in January, April, July and October issues. The section, called Services and Activities, gives contact information for each club to get set up for programs and competitions. Read through the listings (obviously some information is directed at individual members or is of general interest) and locate "Club Judging Services" for example. Under "Competitions and Exhibitions" note the references to Interclub competitions and sign up for one, or more depending on the subject interest of club members. Look at Study Sets/Club Programs. Note that all programs for clubs will soon be available in one location (PSA Headquarters) to allow renters of programs easier access.

The PSA website ([www.PSA-photo.org](http://www.PSA-photo.org)) is a wealth of information, but how to find materials may be a dilemma if the club leader does not understand that there are seven Divisions of interest in the Society!

Stereo, Color Projected Image, Electronic Imaging, Pictorial Print, Nature, Photojournalism, and Photo Travel—all of which may be of interest for some clubs, but generally 3 or 4 will be most likely of use for the majority of clubs.

Know that if the club is only about prints, for example, it may still want to connect with the subject-oriented Divisions listed above. Click on the Divisions of interest (but note that there are many interest sections only for individuals) and send off an email.

Most PSA volunteers are very helpful and a club is on its way once a representative makes an effort towards the interest areas of his club. Understand, however, as for almost everything in life, an effort must be made to achieve success. Availability, yes! Opportunities, certainly! So, go to the PSA Journal Services and Activities section and/or the PSA website right now. Locate opportunities of interest. If any questions, email a PSA officer listed in the Journal and on the website- each one is there to help. ●

## 2009 Councils' Challenge

by Margaret Sprott

There is still plenty of time for you to enter the 2009 PSA Councils' Challenge. I have been getting inquiries about the challenge so I anticipate lots of entries this year. The deadline for entries is June 30, 2009.

Entries are allowed from any club that belongs to a PSA Council even if that club itself does not belong to PSA. All the rules and entry form are on the PSA website ([www.psa-photo.org](http://www.psa-photo.org)). Each council may submit up to 10 images in each division (slides, digital, prints) but only one image per any one photographer is allowed in each division. There is no fee for entries this year.

All images plus an entry form for each division should be sent to:  
Ms. Roz Kleffman  
PSA Councils' Challenge  
2708 Keyport Lane  
Bowie, MD 20715  
Questions or e-mailed entries may be sent to Ms. Kleffman at [mermaid51@verizon.net](mailto:mermaid51@verizon.net).

If you have any questions about the contest or cannot access the forms on the website, you may also contact me.  
Preferred method: [dick\\_margaret@verizon.net](mailto:dick_margaret@verizon.net)  
Telephone: 301-299-6805  
(I can't get messages when I am out of town.)  
Mailing address: 11514 Regency Drive, Potomac, MD 20854

## On-line PhotoEditors Group

by Margaret Sprott

Recently there have been many new people, both newsletter editors and website managers, joining the on-line PhotoEditors Group. It has been interesting communicating with people from all over the country. If your club's editor or web manager has not joined the group, please encourage them to do so. If they have not been getting any messages through the group, it may mean that they somehow got dropped from the group. All they have to do to sign up or rejoin is go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/PhotoEditors/> and request to join the group. Either Elena McTighe or I will then approve them and they will start to get messages and can join into the discussions or ask questions. If they have trouble with this process, have them e-mail me ([dick\\_margaret@verizon.net](mailto:dick_margaret@verizon.net)) and I will send them an invitation to join which will expedite the process. ●

## PSA International Newsletter Contest

by Margaret Sprott

I am very excited to be receiving quite a few entries for the 2009 Newsletter Contest. It is great to see that many clubs that have not entered before are doing so this year. However, there is still time for your club to enter if you have not yet done so. The deadline is June 1, 2009.

All you have to do is send me an e-mail with one issue of your newsletter attached plus an entry form. If you act fast, you could also send 4 copies of one issue along with an entry form by snail mail. The rules and entry form are on the PSA website ([www.psa-photo.org](http://www.psa-photo.org)).

If you have any questions or concerns or can't get the information from the PSA website, please contact me.  
Preferred method: [dick\\_margaret@verizon.net](mailto:dick_margaret@verizon.net)  
Telephone: 301-299-6805 (I can't get messages when I am out of town.)  
Mailing address: 11514 Regency Drive, Potomac, MD 20854

## PSA Website Contest & Join the Collaboration Group

by Janet Bigalke

The DEADLINE for this year's PSA International Website Contest is MAY 31st. If you have not already entered your website into the contest, go to the following link for the entry form and information describing how to enter:  
[www.psa-photo.org/competitionPageDisplay.asp?DivID=8&menuID=4&pageID=173](http://www.psa-photo.org/competitionPageDisplay.asp?DivID=8&menuID=4&pageID=173)

The awards for the contest will be presented at the PSA 2009 Conference in Yellowstone. After the conference, the results will be posted on the PSA Website.

If you are attending this year's conference, there will be a meeting for the Camera Club Committee's (CCC) PSA Website Contest. If you are not coming to the conference, please send a representative to the meeting. We look forward to your input at this meeting on how we can better assist the clubs, councils and chapters in website development.

To assist WEBMASTERS, the CCC has a Collaboration Yahoo Users Group. If you are interested in joining the users group to share ideas or ask questions, simply go the

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/PhotoEditors> and request to join. This is an excellent forum to discuss topics regarding website development and/or issues you may encounter. ●

## **Update—Camera Club “Sparkle”**

*by Hazel Meredith , PSA Journal Camera Club Column Editor*

**I**n July 2008 a new Yahoo group was formed—Camera Club Sparkle—designed for clubs to share information and solve the issues of the day. I’m happy to report that our group has swelled to 89 members!

There have been discussions on subjects such as competition levels in clubs; whether a club needs liability insurance; digital equipment for projecting and scoring; surveys of club members; acquiring judges for competitions; plus much more.

If a club is not represented yet in our group, please have an officer or specified person or two join up. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ccsparkle>. At the top of the page is a link to click to sign up (or sign in if you already have a Yahoo account). Then just follow the links to register for the group. Once I authorize a member to post (that’s just so we can keep out the spammers), you can begin to share your questions, ideas and solutions with fellow clubs.

If you have any questions or problems signing up, please e-mail me, Hazel Meredith at [hmeredithpsa@aol.com](mailto:hmeredithpsa@aol.com).

And, in addition, please remind your club newsletter editor to add me to their e-mail or mailing list for newsletters (e-mail me for mailing address if needed). Thank you! ●