



NEWSLETTER

Produced for the benefit of the Scottish members of the PSA



GDPR REGULATIONS

With the current regulations in force we are obliged to inform you that we only store your contact details to enable us to send information to you from time to time. If however you do not want to be contacted by Scotland Membership Director or Assistant Director please let me know and I will remove your details from the database.

NEW ROPA DISTINCTION

The new ROPA distinction between MPSA and GMPSA is now in place. It is designated MPSA2 and will require 2250 acceptances. The online application process has been modified to accommodate this new award.

VIDEO TO PROMOTE PSA

A video called "You and Your Photography" has been produced and you can view it at <https://vimeo.com/268851531>



Thank you for your support!

Thank you to all the members that offered help and advice. I hope that we can incorporate some of your suggestions in this and future newsletters.

The new photographic season is well under way.

I hope you are all enjoying your photography and getting the chance to listen to many inspirational speakers. Look up your local photographic or camera club and see what they have to offer. Many allow you to attend for a few weeks to see if you enjoy it. Some allow you to attend speaker nights for a small donation. I'm also hoping that Linda and I will get the opportunity to meet some of you when attending clubs to judge and give talks. Later, with your help and suggestions, I hope that we can be more pro-active and organise an event for Scottish Members to meet.





MEMBERS WEBINARS

PSA has a new benefit for members. The new Learning and Technology Vice President, Shiv Verma has launched the first of what will become regular webinars for members. The topic for the first webinar is “Color Management for Photographers” and it was broadcast live on November 9 at 12:00PM EST (that’s US EST). Those members who are unable to participate in the live webinar will be able to access a recording of it at a later date if they register.

All members should have received an email giving them a link to register. Once you register you will be sent information about setting up your computer ready for the webinar. If you have suggestions for webinars please email them to Shiv Verma learntechvp@psa-photo.org

The next webinar will be at 9am on Saturday 8th December (Sydney time). The topic is “Achieving photographic distinctions from PSA”. You can register for the webinar at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8120059792234056962>



USE OF THE PSA LOGO

The PSA Executive has recently updated the policy on the use of the PSA logo. PSA Members may use the official logo (as shown at the top of this newsletter) in the following ways:

- *On personal business cards.*
- *On professional business cards.*
- *On personal websites if the logo is a direct link to the PSA website.*
- *On organizational websites if the logo is a direct link to the PSA website.*
- *On professional websites if the logo is a direct link to the PSA website.*
- *On the exhibition page of PSA-Recognized Exhibitions, with a direct link to the website.*
- ***On social media websites if special permission is granted by the Executive Committee.***

The logo can be downloaded from here: <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?psa-logos>

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BUY BACK RULES CHANGED

The Board has approved changes to the Buy Back rules. You can download the full set of new rules here <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?stars-and-ropa> - scroll to the bottom of the page to see the link. The Buy Back rules have been simplified considerably and it is now easier for members to take advantage of the acceptances they gained prior to joining PSA.

2019 and 2020 PSA CONFERENCES

Planning ahead? The 2019 PSA conference will be held in Spokane, Washington State, from September 22-28. The surrounding area is a great location for photography and there will be many photographic tours including to the Palouse (which is a great area for landscape photography). You can see some preliminary information here <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?future-conferences> and I will share more information with you as it becomes available - so start planning now! The 2020 PSA conference will be held in Colorado Springs, from September 29 to October 3. More information about that later.

DRONES & AV

PSA are looking into how we can best serve our members regarding Drone Photography and AV's. Any ideas or suggestions Please let me know.



CHANGES IN PHOTO TRAVEL DIVISION

A number of changes occurred in the Photo Travel Division since the PSA Conference in Salt Lake City. Brian Magor, APSA, MPSA, was being elevated from Chair of PTD to the PSA Board of Directors as Exhibition Services Vice President. Les Lincke, PPSA, formerly Vice Chair of the Division and Study Group Director was made Chair of the PT Division. John Martin, was made Vice Chair. Dennis Deeny, is now Study Group Director.

PHOTO TRAVEL DIVISION NEWSLETTERS

To keep abreast of what is happening in the Photo Travel Division, check out some of the newsletters at <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?divisions-photo-travel-division-newsletter>

INCREASED FEES FOR STAR RATINGS AND ROPA

At the PSA Conference the Finance Committee approved the following changes to fees:

The fee for each Star, Galaxy and Diamond application will increase from \$12 to \$15.

For each approved Star, Galaxy and Diamond application an electronic (email) certificate will be provided at no charge (same as current). A printed and mailed/shipped certificate will incur an additional charge of \$15.

The fee for each ROPA distinction will increase from \$40 to \$50. The fee for all ROPA plaques will now be \$100. The new fees will come into effect on January 1, 2019.

Have you had success in International Salons

Again it would be interesting for members to hear of your experiences and to see some of your successful images.

Personal Websites

If you have a website why not share it with other members. Give us the link so we can include it in the next Newsletter.

PSA Study Groups

PSA has study groups in most of their divisions for those with varying photographic interests - for a complete list of study groups and links to each, go to: <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?study-groups> or choose the link from the Divisions navigation tab to Study Groups.

Christmas & New Year

Is it too early to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and All the Best for the New Year, I don't know, but from Linda and me have a great time and enjoy!

Got an anecdotes

Please feel free to share any stories, like Ross's, with us that we can all enjoy!

STAR RATINGS and ROPA DISTINCTIONS

The Star Ratings system is simply the process of getting exhibition acceptances verified.

Each Star Rating requires a specific number of acceptances gained from a minimum number of different images (titles).

The verification process (Star Ratings) is done separately in each Division (Nature, PJ, Travel, etc).

When a member has sufficient acceptances verified through Star Ratings they simply apply online for the relevant distinction (QPSA, PPSA, etc).

You can submit Star Ratings applications (and ROPA applications) at any time.

The first PSA distinction, the QPSA, requires just 54 acceptances. The next distinction, the PPSA, requires 288 acceptances. If a member has sufficient acceptances, they can skip the QPSA and apply for the PPSA. In fact, none of the PSA distinctions are compulsory - a member can skip any of them if they have sufficient acceptances to apply for a higher distinction.

The Stars/ROPA page of the PSA website has recently been updated to make it easier for members to find information.

A BRIEF COMPARISON OF PSA AND FIAP DISTINCTIONS

Dr Roy Killen EFIAP, GMPSA, APSEM, Membership Vice President, Photographic Society of America recently wrote a document on the above which explains some of the basic differences between the photographic distinctions systems of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and the International Federation of Photographic Arts (FIAP). Detailed requirements for these distinctions can be downloaded from the PSA and FIAP websites. I have a copy of the document and if anyone wants a copy please email me.

MEMBERS PROFILES

I asked members to volunteer to tell us something about themselves and their photography. I'm very pleased to include this piece by Ross Martin.

My addiction to photography started in my teens, when after the end of World War 2 film became available in the shops for the general

Members Profiles



Ross Martin

I've attached an abbreviated copy of Ross's profile which I hope you enjoy.

Below is a piece I had to leave out due to space but enjoyed so much I had to add it back in.

I had my Black and white films developed and printed by a local chemist. (not without drawbacks, as when on one occasion I was disappointed to find that a rather distant shot of white hares in spring on the Pentland Hills failed to show any hares against the snowless slope.

On enquiry the chemist explained that he thought the white areas were caused by dirt on the lens and he had helpfully touched them out!



FINAL

public. For a few years after replacing my iconic pre-war Box Brownie with a more versatile Ensign Autorange, My main enthusiasm in these days was hillwalking and climbing, and having completed my CA Apprenticeship and National Service, mainly in Canada, I returned to my native Inverness. Much of my free time was spent on the hills, by this time shooting colour slides on my Finetta, mainly of landscapes, but also any fauna and flora which I encountered. I joined Inverness Camera Club, and having had some success in club competitions, was asked to become President.-- Horror of Horrors – A president in 1958 who had never developed a black and white film! This led to my joining the Half Plate Postal Club, which at that time consisted of about ten circles of B&W workers scattered all over the UK, each submitting a print monthly to their Circle secretary for circulation and comment by other members of their Circle. I found this led to a great improvement in my printing. My enthusiasm for colour slides continued unabated, and so for many years as I travelled the Highlands on business, and when I took to the hills, my camera bag contained both a 35mm camera loaded with transparency film and a 2 1/4 square loaded with B&W film. I have always found my photo requirements met by simple "entry level" camera models, and indeed my trusty third-hand Rolleicord VA served me well for decades with its shutter speed jammed on 1/125. Having joined the RPS in 1975, I decided to try for a Distinction, and achieved LRPS in 1977. Having retired from professional life in 1992, I had more free time on my hands, and my wife, Joan and I travelled a lot. I achieved my ARPS in 1993, again with pictorial colour slides. Around 2000, I started entering National and International competitions. I was attracted by the format of PSA divisions and star ratings, and joined PSA in 2001. By 2011 I had accumulated four stars in CPID, and Nature, and three in Photo travel and qualified for PPSA. The advent of the digital photography age heralded the demise of much slide photography, and various slide circuits of which I was a member, folded. This included the Anglo-American Colour Slide Circuit. It had its origins in the 1930's. I joined in 2005, but it was disbanded in 2012. A pity, because it was a unique form of transatlantic exchange of ideas and photos. U.S. Membership was scattered through 8 states, and UK stretched from Kent to Aultbea!



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