



General Information & History

2017 - 2018

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- For Club Constitution go to PCC website > "Members" > "Documents".
- For Club Officers go to PCC website > "Members" > "Club Contacts"
- For meeting dates, times, programs and competition schedule go to PCC website > "Members" > "Documents"
- For Photo Competition information go to PCC website > "Members" > "Documents"

Mission and Purpose

The Peoria Camera Club (PCC or club) was founded in 1954 for the purpose of helping its members become better photographers. It is open to anyone with a desire to improve their photographic skills. Club members meet regularly with a mission to exchange information and ideas about still photography and to participate in competitions and programs.

Peoria Camera Club is affiliated with the Central Illinois Camera Clubs Association (CICCA) and the Photographic Society of America (PSA). These affiliations offer additional opportunities for our members to learn, compete and develop photographic skills at State, National and International levels.

In order to remain at the cutting edge of photographic technology the club hosts speakers from the PSA National Lecture Tour, CICCA members, our own highly experienced club members and others in the photographic business, industry and profession.

*“The proudest members
are those who give,
each day and each meeting...
a kind thought, a helping hand.*

*If we give another an idea,
they have gained greatly
and we have lost nothing.*

*Working together creates
good fellowship and real friendship,
which is greatly needed in club activities.*

*Clubs that work together and play together,
usually stay together.”*

*Fred Geiler, 1972
Past President of PCC and CICCA*

Club Meetings

The heart and soul of the club are the member meetings. Several meetings are held during the month and in addition during the year there are hands-on workshops, photographic salons, field trips, an annual seminar and an opportunity to participate in local and state fairs. We have an annual picnic and two banquets where members can bring guests to enjoy time to socialize.

Normally there are three General meetings held on the first, third and fourth Tuesday of each month in September through May.

The Club Schedule has specific dates and times for meetings. The club web site (www.peoriacameraclub.com) has the most up-to-date schedule of programs and speakers. The club newsletter (*PhotoChatter*) also has the latest information.

General meetings include presentations or demonstrations of a variety of activities presented by professional photographers, PCC club members or other photographers. Programs may also be pre-recorded presentations in a variety of formats. Club Photographic Competitions are also shown.

Typical program topics include:

- Techniques for capturing images.
- Composition.
- Understanding white balance.
- Understanding ISO.
- Exposure
- Depth of field.
- Close-ups & macros of insects, flowers, etc.
- Use of light: natural, flash and strobes.
- Black & White photography.
- Using Photoshop, Lightroom, Elements and other software.
- Enhancing and being creative with images.
- Correcting color.
- Cropping
- File storage
- Printing
- Mounting and framing prints
- Club Photographic Competitions

Club Photographic Competitions

Photographic Competitions enable members to participate in club competitions for digital and print images and receive feedback to learn what makes a “good” image.

Club Competitions are scheduled for showing at General Meetings.

Programs about competitions are may also be included. More information can be found in “Competition Rules and Guidelines” document.

Typical activities included at meetings with competitions are:

- Digital images and/or prints entered in competitions are shown with commentary from judges.
- Programs to help members understand judge’s comments on images.
- Programs on how to enter competitions.
- Discussions about the characteristics of several winning images in the competition.

Awards and Recognition

The best awards and recognition happen when you enter a competition and a judge makes a constructive comment about your photograph. This becomes a moment of learning even for the most skilled members in the club.

Whether or not the judging results in acceptances for your images, the competition process will help you improve your knowledge and skills as a photographer.

Awards are all about recognizing members for their work and performance within the club and also to encourage new members to compete thus advancing their skill levels.

Ribbons, plaques, certificates and PhotoChatter newsletter are used as a means of congratulating and honoring these members for their achievements in the course of membership.

Irv and Esther Slonneger Service Award

Peoria Camera Club charter members, Irv and Esther Slonneger, received an award, December 1976, to appreciate and commemorate their twenty-two years of leadership and contribution to the club.

The Slonneger Service Award has since become an honorary award for outstanding and unselfish service to the Peoria Camera Club.

This award is not an annual award and no minimum time of service is required. However, the recipient must possess proficiency in the art of photography with the key factor for selection being outstanding service provided to the club.

Any club member may nominate a fellow member by writing a letter to the President, by November 1st, stating the reasons for nomination. The Executive Board will review all nominations to make a decision at the November board meeting. When no nomination letters are received, the Executive Board may select a member for the award.

A plaque will be presented to the recipient at the Annual Christmas Banquet.

Recipients	Year	Recipients	Year
Irv & Esther Slonneger	1976	Rich Seeman	2006
Elroy Limmer	1978	Tom Ruhland	2007
Jan Gresham	1980	Bill Goad	2008
Dave West	1981	Steve Herrick	2009
Gary Gresham	1982	Tom Romanowski	2010
Russ Planck	1983	Jack Weidman	2011
Darrell Stafford	1984	Sam Black	2012
Robert Campbell	1985	Sue Marx	2013
Margaret Stafford	1986	Carl Close	2014
John G. Ewan	1987	Ray Keithley	2015
Donna Neuhaus	1988	Joe Virbickis	2016
Jim Henderson	1989		
Dean Kendall	1990		
Art Beer	1992		
Walt McCulla	1993		
Rita Campbell	1995		
Rich Seeman	1998		
Scott Dunham	1999		
Don Webster	2000		
Vicki Padesky	2001		
Carl Close	2003		
Vicki Padesky	2004		
Pete Anderton	2005		

Previous Presidents

1954-55	Dwight Miller	2001-02	Jan Gresham
1955-56	Arthur Bastian	2002-03	Pete Anderton
1956-57	Arthur Bastian	2003-04	Pete Anderton
1957-58	Gene Burton	2004-05	Carl Close
1958-59	Ralph King	2005-06	Richard Seeman
1959-60	Ernest O'Brien	2006-07	Steve Herrick
1960-61	Don Scriggs	2007-08	Steve Herrick
1961-62	Esther Slonneger	2008-09	Jim Helwig
1962-63	Fred Geiler	2009-10	Tom Romanowski
1963-64	Irv Slonneger	2010-11	Tom Romanowski
1964-65	Francis Rafool	2011-12	Sam Black
1965-66	Lois Kadesky	2012-13	Scott Dunham
1966-67	Virginia Rafool	2013-14	Julie Dodge
1967-68	Ralph King	2014-15	Ray Keithley
1968-69	Dean Lightbody	2015-16	Joe Virbickis
1969-70	W.T. McCormick	2016-17	Dave Bowers
1970-71	Dean Kendall		
1971-72	Gary Gresham		
1972-73	Richard Etter		
1973-74	Russell Planck		
1974-75	Dan Kaiser		
1975-76	Elroy Limmer		
1976-77	Janet Gresham		
1977-78	Pat Etter		
1978-79	Darrell Stafford		
1979-80	Richard Etter & Bob Moulton		
1980-81	Bob Moulton & Bob Campbell		
1981-82	Bob Campbell		
1982-83	Jim Henderson		
1983-84	John G. Ewan		
1984-85	Janet Gresham		
1985-86	David Youngren		
1986-87	Sam Campbell		
1987-88	Walt McCulla		
1988-89	John A. Ewan		
1989-90	Margaret Stafford		
1990-91	Donna Neuhaus		
1991-92	Donald F. Webster		
1992-93	Ed Dew		
1993-94	Art Beer		
1994-95	Bill Sprick		
1995-96	Richard Seeman		
1996-97	Charlene & Bob Wolschlag		
1997-98	Scott Dunham		
1998-99	Vicki Padesky		
1999-00	Carl Close		
2000-01	Rick Ellis		

Peoria Camera Club History

• September 1954 •

Fifty-five Peoria area photographers meet in the Blackhawk room of the Jefferson Hotel and form the Peoria Color Camera Club. Dwight Miller is their elected President and the first and third Tuesdays of the month are established as their meeting dates.

• 1955 •

The Constitution of the Peoria Color Camera Club is adopted on May 17th. The Peoria Color Camera Club becomes affiliated with Photographic Society of America (PSA) and Central Illinois Camera Clubs Association (CICCA).

• 1959 •

Slide competition “clubs” (Regular, Bronze, Silver, and Gold) are created to allow members to compete against similarly proficient photographers and to advance as their skills develop.

• 1964 •

Separate Nature and Pictorial slide divisions are created so photographers can compete in multiple areas. The pictorial slide division is for more general photography, while the nature slide division is a specialized subject matter.

• 1975 •

The Print Division is formed to offer members more opportunities to develop photography techniques and skills, including how to print photographs and/or compete in the printed format.

• 1976 •

Charter members, Irv and Esther Slonneger are presented a special award in appreciation for their twenty-two years of contribution, leadership, and service to the Peoria Color Camera Club.

• 1978 •

The Techniques Division is established as a development program to provide hands-on training for developing and using a range of photographic skills.

• 1980 •

The Photojournalism slide division is created as another specialized subject area of competition for members to enhance and sharpen their storytelling capabilities. The Constitution of the Peoria Color Camera Club is amended to include many changes, which have occurred within the club over the years.

• 1983 •

The Kisner Award was created to honor Thule (Jack) Kisner for his strong desire to share his photographic knowledge and wisdom with club members.

Peoria Camera Club History

• 1998 •

A Contemporary slide competition is established to provide members with more opportunities to learn and develop new photography skills and techniques. The Contemporary competition is another special photography area that allows photographers a forum to be more creative and innovative in their approach to image making. As a special competition, all club members compete on a single level rather than in “clubs” as established in the other slide divisions.

• 2000 •

The Contemporary slide competition is increased from one competition to two competitions, with a ribbon award for anyone achieving more than 10 acceptances.

• 2001 •

The Techniques division becomes the Digital/Techniques Division and the Contemporary slide competition is changed to the Creative division.

• 2002 •

The Peoria Color Camera Club purchases a digital camera and digital slide projector to develop digital photography training programs and opportunities. In addition, the Peoria Color Camera Club amends the constitution, adjusting the available term limits of the President and other board members.

• 2003 •

The Peoria Color Camera Club purchases a laptop computer and holds its first Electronic competition (E-comp).

• 2006 •

Club meeting structure and competitions were reorganized to facilitate the fast growth of digital image technology. The Creative division incorporates head to head digital and slide competition. The club moved its meeting location from Lakeview Museum to Proctor Hospital Professional Building

• 2007 •

The club changed its name from Peoria Color Camera Club to Peoria Camera Club to more accurately match its objectives. The name of the Pictorial slide competition was changed to Open slide to clarify the type of images acceptable in that competition. The Photojournalism competitions incorporate head to head slide and digital competitions.

• 2008 •

The club merged the competitions for Slides and Digital Images into ‘Nature’ and ‘Open’. Members can enter these competitions as slides or digital images.

• 2009 •

After several years meeting in the Proctor Professional Building the club moved its meeting place on January 2009 to the Christian Center as a temporary location. In September 09 the new location will be in the Immanuel Lutheran Church.

Peoria Camera Club History

• 2010 •

Peoria Camera Club made a historic change in its competition rules. The format of slides will no longer be accepted for any competition on the Club's program. Members using slides must have them digitized to enter competitions.

• 2012 •

Major changes to the club program involved the creation of a Competition evening each month where two showings of member's images would be made. Organization changes were made with retitling of positions and clearer assignment of tasks. Over 50 procedures were written to define who, what, when and how club activities would be run. The club handbook would be redesigned to clarify and be more user friendly. New members would be given a more structured entry to the club activities. A mentor program is introduced to provide a helpful hand pertaining to members' questions. The Board would be increased by one and the Constitution updated to reflect the above changes.

• 2013 •

PCC had the first competition that required the image be captured with a Smart Phone or Tablet camera. Meeting time was changed to begin at 7pm.

• 2014 •

Members judging PCC competitions will now receive three Kisner points for each competition they judge. Members competing in the Smart Phone competition will now receive Kisner points for that competition.

• 2015 •

In September 2015 our club moved to a new location in the First United Methodist Church in Peoria IL. The club logo was redesigned as shown here.



• 2016 •

During the 2016-2017 club year the club Constitution was brought up to date and approved by general membership at the annual business meeting. These changes simplified and clarified some content.