



The Reflector

Volume 63, Issue 7

April 2011

Calendar:

- April 7, 21
7:30pm — Elements
Classes Cokesbury,
pg.12
- April 4
7:30pm Instruction
Event Photography
pg.3
- April 8
Projected Image
entry deadline
- April 11
7:30pm Projected
Image Competition
- April 15
Print competition
entry deadline
- April 18
7:30pm—Print
Competition
- April 25
7:00pm — Photo
Show Contest
- May 2
7:30pm Instruction
Why Use Lightroom?
pg.3

My Thoughts

By Karl Leck, President

I am happy to announce that the DPS Board of Directors has approved in principle an offer from Richard Herrmann and the law firm of Morris James to endow DPS with \$11,500 over three years. Interest and earnings from the endowment will be used for our education activities. In addition, Morris James will sponsor a major DPS photo competition. A committee consisting of Tom Tauber, Bob Hunt, John Davis and Karl Leck will collect ideas and work out details for the photo competition.

(Continued on page 2)



*4th of July Fireworks by JC Roy
March projected image*

2011 Photo Show — April 25

Last year's DPS Photo Show competition ran smoothly and efficiently, finishing well under three hours. Best of all, the entries showed improvement in technique, story-telling and entertainment value. We had twenty-four entries in Prints and the three Projected Image categories. Twenty members participated and their shows entertained a large crowd.

The deadline for entries is April 18. There are no rule changes. Nevertheless, please review them on the

DPS web site. If you need technical help, contact Pete Lounsbury at lounsburyus@comcast.net. For interpretation of the rules or anything else, please contact John at jmtout@comcast.net.

Remember that the competition begins at **7pm**, thirty minutes earlier than the regular meeting time.

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The Delaware Camera Club (DCC) was established January 28, 1931. DCC is a charter member of the Photographic Society of America and The Delaware Valley Council of Camera Clubs. In 2002 the name was changed to the Delaware Photographic Society (DPS) and the Society became a tax deductible educational organization.

My Thoughts

(Continued from page 1)

Endowments are important sources of income for education organizations. I hope the DPS will have other individuals endow the Society so that we can continue education activities with quality speakers and Youth In Focus for school children.

*Endowments are
important sources of
income for education ...*

Hearty thanks to everyone who helped with all of the aspects of the Wilmington International Exhibition. We had record turnouts at the receptions. I am still getting compliments from Lifelong Learning Institute staff and members about the print exhibition and dazzling projected image show.

The Gallery 919 exhibit is coming soon. We will collect the last entries and select prints for

exhibition after the meeting on Monday, April 4. Each member is responsible for matting and framing their print. We will use American Frame Radius Plus metal frames in RP21 Matte Black color. With a frame purchase American Frame will provide a custom cut mat. We will use CBW402 White mats with 3" of mat showing on all sides of the image. For a print image size of 12"x16" a 18"x22" frame is needed. A pair of 18" sides is \$10.20 plus \$12.90 for the 22" sides. Acrylic glazing adds \$9.25. The 18"x22" frame, mat, and glazing totals \$32.35. To meet the \$65 order size for free shipping, two or more members can order together. In addition, you will need wire for hanging and backing board from American Frame or a local craft store. Remember, when you order from www.americanframe.com or 800.537-0944, be sure to provide reference number **P163** so that DPS gets a 5% rebate. More information on the exhibit may be found on page 11. ☞



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Instruction Night

Instruction Night is held the first Monday of the month, October through May in the duPont Pavilion at 7:30pm



Kristin 1 by Pete Lounsbury

◆ April 4: *Event Photography*

Bob Hunt and Pete Lounsbury will offer their professional tips and insightful information on event photography. Bob will share his knowledge honed from years as a US Army photographer, owner and operator of a photographic studio, and as a seasoned sports photographer. Pete has been a wedding photographer for more than 30 years and has shot over 1000 weddings.

Bob will cover identifying the assignment, writing a contract with all pricing, payment, deliverables and dates, determining your equipment needs, planning

your shoot, preparing your gear and dressing appropriately.

Pete will use about fifty images to demonstrate how to shoot weddings, including using window lighting for intimate portraiture, posing individuals and groups, and then taking all the action shots in processionals, ceremonies, recessionals, receptions, toasts, bouquet tosses, and dancing. All of this requires getting the most out of your flash.

◆ May 2: *Why Use Lightroom?* Bob Coffey

This program was developed to address the needs of photographers to handle large numbers of images faster and more efficiently than Photoshop. It does not replace Photoshop, but works in conjunction with it. Scott Kelby, founder of the National Association of Photoshop Professionals, was quoted as saying that he used it for 85% of his image processing...and that was when LR 1 was first introduced! That strong endorsement sold me and I now agree.

Adobe and PSA have teamed up to provide special train-the-trainer kits to member clubs, consisting of extensive tutorials, program outlines, give-away goodies and a free copy of Lightroom 3 (\$299 value) as a door prize to some lucky attendee. Come to the demo and learn the features and benefits of this exciting program that I have really learned to love over the past four years.

Thumbnails

- Instruction Night is held the first Monday of the month at 7:30pm.
- Competition nights are held on the second and third Mondays at 7:30pm.
- Program night is the last Monday of the month October—March at 7:30pm in the Cokesbury auditorium on Level C.
- Location: duPont Pavilion, Cokesbury Village, 726 Loveville Rd, Hockessin, DE 19707.
- Membership dues should be addressed to: DPS Treasurer, John Blankenbaker, P.O. Box 120, Chadds Ford, PA 19317. Dues: \$35, individuals; \$25, others at the same address; half the individual fee for junior or nonresident members; first-year members, \$20 per person.
- *The Reflector* is published by the Delaware Photographic Society. Material may not be reproduced without written permission. Please send articles or announcements to Sharon Coffey at SESCoffey@aol.com.
- Members are encouraged to participate in the Yahoo group, DPS-Exchange, DPS-Exchange@yahoo.com
- Visit our Web site at: www.delawarephotographicsociety.org.



This program is made possible, in part, by grants from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.

Questions & Answers



*Contributed monthly
by Erik Kissa*

For more information on photographic equipment and techniques visit Erik's site at www.psa-photo.org in the PSA Journal section.

Q: *Which compact camera with manual exposure adjustments and RAW is the best?*

A: Three high-end compact cameras that have manual controls and RAW format are the Canon Powershot G12, Nikon Coolpix P7000, and the Panasonic Lumix DMC LX5. Although the Lumix has a Leica designed 24-90mm f/2.0 zoom lens, the lens is not automatically covered when the camera is switched off and needs a lens cap. The lens cap may be left inadvertently on the lens when taking pictures or lost when it is not on the lens. Another undesirable feature is that the camera comes without a viewfinder and needs a bulky accessory viewfinder to be used in bright light.

The Canon G12 and the Nikon P7000 are similar, but with some significant differences. The Nikon P7000 has a 28-200mm f/2.8-5.6 lens, whereas the Canon G12 has a 28-140mm f/2.8-4.5 lens. (The focal lengths are 35mm equivalents). Both lenses perform quite well. According to test reports, the Canon G12 has less distortion and is sharper at the wide end, whereas the Nikon P7000 has less noise at ISO 1600. The differences are small, however. Both cameras have noticeable noise above ISO 800, although useful prints can be made even

at ISO 3200.

Canon has an adapter for a 58mm polarizing filter, an important accessory for landscape photography. According to a user report, the Nikon adapter does not accommodate standard filter sizes.

Both the Canon Powershot G12 and Nikon Coolpix P7000 can shoot RAW and JPEG images. The shutter speed, aperture, and ISO rating can be adjusted and exposure corrections can be made with dials without having to open the menu. The cameras can be operated manually as well and both have an automatic clamshell lens cover.

In both cameras, the optical viewfinder covers only 80% of the picture area and is not parallax corrected. In spite of these limitations, the viewfinder is useful for shooting moving subjects, especially in bright sunshine. Both cameras support wireless TTL flash.

The advantages of the Canon G12:

A tilt/swivel LCD screen is useful for overhead and low angle shooting. For me, this feature alone puts the Canon G12 ahead of the Nikon P7000.

- Solid build and outstanding handling
- Front and back DSLR-like command dials
- RGB histogram
- Multiframe HDR mode

The advantages of the Nikon P7000:

- Larger, (3" size versus 2.8" of the Canon G12) LCD screen with higher (921,000-dot) resolution
- Longer range of the zoom lens (28-200mm equivalent)
- Continuous autofocus in video mode and an external microphone jack

For me, the Canon G12 was the clear choice, although I shoot Nikon DSLR cameras. My tests have shown that the Canon lens is sharp when fully open at all focal lengths with minimal distor-

(Continued on page 5)

Questions & Answers

(Continued from page 4)

tion. The optical stabilization is very effective. Sharp pictures can be made using a 1/10 s shutter speed. I have made amazingly sharp 13" x19" (Super B) prints shot with the Canon G12. The color and contrast are muted in the Auto mode, but adjustable (neutral, vivid, etc.)



in other modes.

This picture (left) illustrates the overhead use of the Canon G12 camera and the other picture (below) shows the top view of a fountain in Longwood Gardens.

When I started to use the Canon G12, I found it difficult to hold the small camera

for eye-level shooting. My thumb fell onto

two buttons at the right side of the camera back and interfered with the operation. The problem had a simple solution. I place my thumb onto the back of the closed



LCD screen or onto the center of the camera, when the LCD screen is open. This mode of holding the camera is not suitable for the Nikon P7000 because my thumb would fall onto the LCD screen.

My only complaint about the Canon G12 camera is that it does not have a printed manual. The CD-ROM provided is inconvenient to

read and is not always available. A book by David Busch fills the void but is too large to leave the home, as is a print-out of the CD.

Neither the Canon G12 nor the Nikon P7000 has interchangeable lenses and this may be a limitation for some photographers. However, the interchangeable lens of an ILC (EVIL) camera is not retractable and the camera does not fit into a pocket or small pouch.

Q: *I use Photoshop Elements to work on my photos. What advantages would I gain if I buy the Photoshop CS software?*

A: Photoshop Elements is available for about \$80, easy to learn and sufficient for editing most photographs used for competitions and exhibitions. The CS versions of Photoshop, at a cost of about \$650, have much more to offer, although some of it is primarily for graphic artists or publishers and is not needed for most photographs. I have Photoshop CS5 and Elements 9 in one computer and Photoshop CS3 and Elements 6 in the other computer. I use the full Photoshop mainly for the following reasons: The use of 16 bit depth is limited in the Elements. Curves in Elements are limited to a three-point adjustment, instead of 16 points in Photoshop CS with three curves for individual color channels. However, the three-point curve adjustment in Elements is usually quite adequate.

Elements does not have the Lab color mode, used for adjusting luminosity without changing color. But most users of the Photoshop do not use the LAB color mode and many do not even know what it is.

Photoshop CS has a steeper learning curve than Elements, but whatever is learned in Elements can always be applied to Photoshop CS.

Send questions to ekissa@aol.com

78th Wilmington International Exhibition



▲ *Pictures at an Exhibition* by Bob Coffey

WIEP Chairman Dianne Carnegie and her hardworking crew deserve a round of applause for a job well done! Alistair Gillanders' improvements in the computer program effected greater efficiency. Carole Clarke's publicity campaign paid off with great newspaper coverage that drew a record crowd that admired over 300 photographs displayed throughout Arsht Hall. The audio-visual show was a big hit, and Karl Leck's ever-popular roving print discussions helped visitors understand why some photographs scored better than other outstanding images.

For anyone who missed it, webmaster, John Davis has posted the audio-visual presentation on the DPS web site for full-screen viewing with sound. Just go to International Exhibition on the DPS Home page. The award-winning images will be also be posted soon.

Attendees at the 78th WIEP were invited to cast their ballots for the Peoples' Choice Awards for their favorite photograph by a local and a non-local photographer. The results are in, and a DPS Gold Medal has been awarded in each category.

The non-local winner was Wong Lai Chu from Macao, for *Wonderful*.

Locally, Don Shenk, from the Lancaster (PA) Camera Club, received the highest number of votes (21 votes) for *Pressing On*. DPS member Steve Berkowitz came in second (19 votes) for *Vixen and Kits*, and Bob Coffey (17 votes) came in third for *Springhouse Pond*.

The 2011 Wilmington Exhibition of Photography was a wonderful success, and I wish to thank EVERYONE that was involved in making it a great show. I had some very good volunteers who made things go smoothly. The tradition is continuing! I hope that Pete Lounsbury, the new Chair, will receive the same cooperation that I did.
Dianne Carnegie



▲ *Decisions, decisions. An exhibition visitor fills out her ballot for the Gold Medal Peoples' Choice Award.*
Photos by Bob Coffey

Stories Behind the Winners



Bob Coffey; *Splat!*, DPS Bronze Medal (Judge's Choice), PJ Print: This was one of my entries in the assigned subject "Decisive Moment", which required capturing an image at the peak of the action. This shot was taken in the Childrens' Section at Longwood Gardens where water spouts are propelled in short randomly-timed spurts from both directions across an archway. Kids love to play "dodge 'em" with these fun fountains on hot summer days. This young lad zigged when he should have zagged catching the sideways burst as it splashed against his head. His facial expression exhibits his surprise. The action was caught using rear curtain flash, which allowed the motion of his hand to be shown as a blur in ambient light before freezing the action with the flash.

Here is another installment of WIEP medal-winning photographs by DPS members.

Mike Elliott: *Oriental Lily*, DPS Bronze Medal (Judge's Choice) Large Color Print: I was walking through the Longwood conservatory when I noticed this lily. I love high key pictures, and the petals of the lily made for a perfect background. A Canon



500D close-up lens was placed over my 70-200 zoom. Three pictures were taken at the same manual exposure, focusing on the pistil, stamen and pistil stem, respectively. Then all three shots were stacked and blended in Photoshop. Minimal optimization was needed to achieve the final product.



Nancy Everds; *Black-rumped Flameback*, IIFW Gold Medal, Large Color Print: As part of a recent trip to India, we spent time with KV Eldhose, a fantastic birder and nature guide. He lives in a rural area of Kerala (South India), and has set up several feeding stations in diverse local habitats. One of the feeding stations is right in front of his house where I sat at my camera/tripod and photographed the amazing birds that stopped by. This flameback is a woodpecker that looks like a pileated woodpecker on drugs. The weather was overcast and drizzly, so even in the early afternoon, the light was fairly dim, but free of harsh shadows. With the shallow depth of field, the banana tree behind the feeder tree makes a perfect background. I shot this at 1/125 of a second at 700 mm (500 mm lens and a 1.4x tele-converter) at ISO 3200.

Stories Behind the Winners

Karl Leck; *DC Mayhem*, PSA Silver Medal (Human Interest), Photojournalism Print: My favorite reality dance program on TV is *So You Think You Can Dance*. In summer



2010 Nigel Lythgoe, the show's producer, had two of his choreographers create a dance which was posted on the program's website. Viewers were encouraged to learn the dance and do it on National Dance Day which was declared to be July 31. One of the specified venues was the National Mall in Washington, DC. We arrived there in early afternoon but saw no gathering or signs. Not wanting to consider the trip as a total loss, we went to the Smithsonian for an hour or two. After the museum we decided to take one last look on the Mall. At the Capital end a portable stage on a flatbed truck had appeared and a small crowd was gathering. Soon music was playing and DC area dance

groups began performing onstage. After photographing Nigel Lythgoe surrounded by reporters, I edged my way to the stage area. The local dance groups performed for an hour and the crowd increased to well over 1000.

Then, they called for the crowd of mostly young women to do the dance posted on the website. I photographed as quickly as I could with two cameras before noticing that the TV cameras were getting the dancer's attention. I shuffled and squeezed thru the crowd to get next to one of the TV cameras. The girls were dancing for their chance to be on national television right in front of the TV cameraman and myself. I used a 17-35 mm f/2.8 zoom on a 6 MP Nikon D70 body at 17 mm since the dancers were very close. Fortunately, the dance was repeated several times and I quickly filled my CF cards. The metadata shows that I shot with dynamic autofocus at f/8, 1/250 second at ISO 320 for RAW + JPG captures in Adobe RGB. Only a slight contrast reduction and shadow lightening was done in Photoshop to complete this photojournalism image.

We were honored that Andy Robertson and Graham Willis from our sister club in Watford England (left to right in the photo), made a special trip for the opening of the 78th Wilmington International Exhibition. This was their second visit to the WIEP.

Andy, an avid hiker (and story teller), has trekked on three occasions to the base camp on Mount Everest and will be returning to present the speaker program in November.

We are pleased that Graham will also return to present the February 2012 program. Their good humor and gracious personalities are real breaths of fresh air, and we look forward to their return to "base camp" Wilmington.



DVCCC Spring Foto Fling

By Lynn
Maniscalco
Council Rep

**Upcoming all-day event in Maple
Shade, NJ on April 30**

Maple Shade Municipal Complex

Senior Room — Upper Level
200 Stiles Ave.

Maple Shade, NJ 08052

www.dvccc-photo.org

In the morning there will be ten photo competitions for attendees, and prints must be submitted by 9:30 that morning, that day. Digital entries must be submitted by April 26, (See DVCCC Rules). Eligibility for competitions is limited to attendees! A free continental breakfast is included. In the afternoon there will be a highly recommended presentation by Diane Ippolito. Since DPS is a member of the council, you will not be charged an admission fee.

Secondly, don't forget to enter the Photo Travel (PT) circuit, closing on April 1. There are six medals reserved for local entrants, and there is usually very little competition for them. The show from the first judging will be presented at the upcoming event on April 30, and our own Tom Tauber will be one of the judges. It is interesting to have your same work judged by different juries — if you enter four open travel and four theme travel images, both sections will be judged three times each—a total of six judgments for a single \$18 entry fee. For information, go to www.dvcccpt.org.

The definition of PT is "A Photo Travel image must express the feeling of a time and place, and portray a land, its people, or a culture in its natural state." Photo Travel images have no geographical limitations. Ultra close-ups which lose their identity and

studio-type model shots are not acceptable. Techniques that add to, relocate, replace or remove any element of the original image, except by cropping, are not permitted. Techniques that enhance the presentation of the image without changing the photo travel content are permitted. All adjustments must appear natural.

So, just as in PJ, present exactly what you found there, and PSA has asked us to encourage the judges to reward images that portray the people and their culture over nature type subjects. Another hint, include enough environment so it is obvious where the photo was taken, and preferably depict some activity, not a close-up or head shot, that could have been taken anywhere. But there are no restrictions on locations—Lancaster is just as good as Mongolia, if it's a good photo showing something of the culture. ☺



Flat Pickin' by Marvin Gerstein
High-scoring March print

Upcoming DPS Exhibits

GALLERY 919 MARKET



DPS members are invited to exhibit at Gallery 919, Market Street in Wilmington, from April 30 to May 27. We will host a wine and cheese reception for the Art Loop on May 6, from 4:30 to 8pm.

Approximately 40 photographs will be chosen

to hang in this prime location. There is no theme for the exhibit. Members may submit up to 3 entries, on or before, April 4. Entry sizes may range from 8"x10" to 16"x20" in color or monochrome. For a coordinated exhibit, all accepted prints will use the same frame molding and mat style, and it is the photographer's responsibility to mat and frame their acceptance according to set guidelines. Jeff Smith, Bob Hunt, and Karl Leck are happy to help anyone who asks with that task. Refer to "My Thoughts" on page 2 and page 12 for specified framing materials.

Contact Karl at karleck@verizon.net or Jeff at jasmix@comcast.net / 302.368.1089 to arrange to drop off entries before April 4.

The committee responsible for conducting the exhibits will take all reasonable care in handling the prints and frames to prevent damage. However, neither the committee, nor the Delaware Photographic Society will be responsible for any damage or loss that occurs to the prints or materials. Entering a DPS contest or submitting entries signifies your acceptance of this statement.

*Longwood
Gardens*

DPS members are invited to interpret, through their photography, the 2011 Longwood Gardens theme, *Sound*.

Summer exhibit, June 1—September 9, should reflect on summer-related sounds, such as fountains, babbling brooks, and wind through trees. The juried exhibit will be on display in the Longwood Visitors Center. Entries may be submitted at the Monday, May 16, meeting or delivered beforehand to an exhibit committee member. Please refer to exhibit rules and contacts below.

Fall exhibit, September 13—October 25, will be based on *Essence of Fall in the Brandywine Valley*, such as color, landscapes, and architecture in the area. The exhibit will hang in the Conservatory Gallery. Entries should be submitted by August 29 to:

Bob Coffey — bobcoffey@aol.com

Karl Leck — karleck@verizon.net

Jane Strobach — jstrobach@yahoo.com

Jeff Smith — jasmix@comcast.net

Longwood exhibit rules:

1. Entrants may enter up to 8 photographs
2. Image area —12" x 16" horizontal or vertical
3. Mounted and matted with **white** mat-board to 16" x 20" (The club's 16"x20" frames will be used for a coordinated look.)

In preparation for the exhibits, Jeff Smith may require assistance in framing the prints.

Update: PSA Interclub Club Creative Competition

We've now completed Round 2. Despite our efforts, DPS remains fourth in the rankings out of eleven clubs in our group.

In this round, DPS member Karl Leck received an "Award Of Merit" for his photo entitled *Her Demon*. The next round of this inter-club competition is coming fast. The competition has been fierce, but with two rounds yet to go, we can still end up in the winners circle.

So please, if you have any good creative (altered reality) photos you have not yet

sent to me, please forward them via e-mail to marvtu@aol.com as soon as possible.

[maximum width 1024 pixels; maximum height 768 pixels; maximum file size 800kb]

Thanks for your help.

Marvin Gerstein

[Note: if you would like to view the photos receiving an award of merit in Round 2, go to <http://www.mdsg.us/cic/group-a-2011-02-ams.pdf>]

Member News



◆ Calvary Episcopal Church in Wilmington, sponsors an annual Community Arts Series. As part of this effort, the Church organizes a Community Series Photography Exhibit. The event is to share creativity and obtain instructive feedback. Erik Kissa served as the 2011 judge. Congratulations to Karen Purdy, winner of this year's contest. Karen was awarded a membership to the DPS as a prize. Photo by Danny Schweers

◆ Dianne Carnegie was the first DPS member to receive a PSA Star in Large Color Prints.

Assigned Subjects



April 2011 — *Ships and Boats*

September 2011 — *Mist or Fog*

October 2011 — *Selective Focus*

November 2011 — *Land Vehicles in Motion*

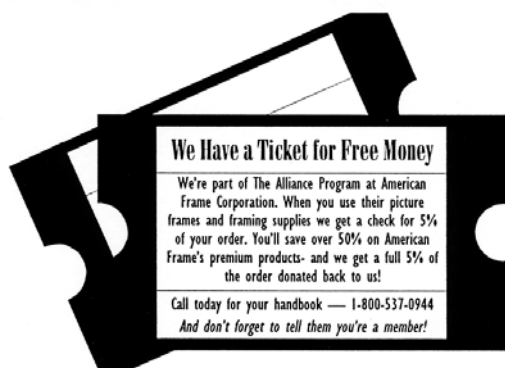


Photoshop Elements Classes Offered

➤ The Photoshop Elements instructional sessions in the Cokesbury Community Room on Level A are scheduled the first and third Thursdays of the month from 7:30 to 9 pm under the direction of Jim Doyle. The "workshop format" means no session will be dependent on the previous one. Anyone with a minimal working knowledge of Elements, whether a previous participant or not, can ask "how to" questions or offer to demonstrate a technique. Participants observe the procedures projected on a large screen, and some also bring personal laptops for "hands on" experience. Contact Jim at doylejj@comcast.net with questions.

➤ Pete Lounsbury will hold a free-style workshop applying Photoshop Elements to create photographic artwork from 7 to 9pm at the Newark Senior Center, 200 White Chapel Drive, Newark, DE 19713, the **second Wednesday** of each month. The workshops are sponsored by www.nscseniorsurfers.com/.

There are computers in the center, but it is recommended that you bring a laptop loaded with a current version of Elements. For more information, contact Pete at lounsburyus@comcast.net or 302.636.0868.



For orders placed by DPS members, American Frame Co. rebates 5 % of all framing materials back to the Society. Members have done business with AFC for over 25 years and rate their quality, selection, pricing and service as consistently excellent.

Go to www.Americanframe.com or call 800. 537.0944 to request a catalog. Please provide reference number **P 163** when ordering so the Society will receive credit for the purchase and be awarded the rebate.



The Photographic Society of America (PSA) is the largest organization of its kind in the world, bringing together amateur and professionals in all the varied fields of photography, including color slides, nature, pictorial prints, stereo (3D), electronic photography, video/motion pictures, photojournalism, travel photography, and devotees of every process in which the world-wide membership is interested.

Help from experts and educational programs is available to all members. Find out more about the PSA from these websites: www.psa-photo.org and delawarephotographicsociety.org.