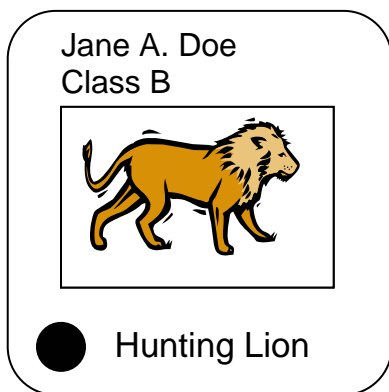


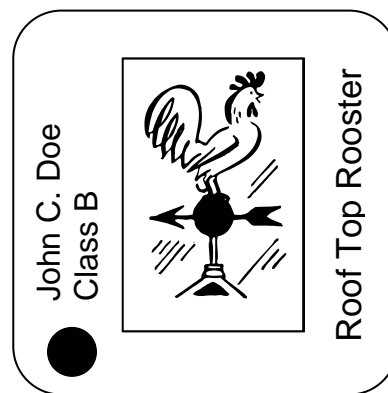
Competition Information for New Members

Competition in color slides, nature slides and monochrome and color prints are a regular feature of the St. Louis Camera Club activities. These suggestions are made to help you get started. For specific rules of competition, consult your club yearbook.

All slides entered in competitions must contain your name, class, a title and a spot. Failure to include these things could result in a disqualification of your slide. To spot a slide, hold it up as you want it to appear on the screen and place the spot in the lower left hand corner of the slide. The spot should be large and clear so that projectionist can see it easily. It is recommended, but not required, to mount your slide in glass. New members start in Class B. One slide is entered for each competition. Members can choose to enter it in the "comment" section or the "no comment" section.



Horizontal



Vertical

Nature slides follow the practices of the Photographic Society of America, which states that the "hand of man" should not be shown. Do not include such things as houses, fences, roads, autos, etc. Cultivated plants and domestic and farm animals are not eligible. Zoo pictures are eligible provided the zoo surroundings are not evident. Refer to the yearbook for clarification of the rules.

In **Print** competitions, the film may be processed and printed commercially, but the image must be the work of the entrant. Prints must be at least 8 x 10, but not larger than 16 x 20. See the yearbook for clarification of the rules.

Assigned Subject competitions are designed to stimulate your imagination and improve your photographic skills. When the competition has an assigned subject, only those entries that include the assigned subject will be eligible. If the judge feels that the photo does not include the assigned subject, it will be disqualified.

During competitions you will hear comments from the judge(s). These comments are intended to be constructive and not critical of you or your work. Please do not be offended by the comments. During the judging, no one in the room knows whose picture is being shown. Above all, never take competitions too seriously. Always remember to take whatever pictures you like in any way you choose and enjoy your photography.

Nature Competition

A nature slide is one presenting facts and phenomenon from the various branches of natural history, such as botany, zoology, geology, astronomy, etc. in such a way that a well-informed person can identify the subject and recognize its honest presentation. This means that human elements like power lines, roads, etc. should be avoided. Cultivated plats, domestic animals and museum habitats are not acceptable. Derivations and other alterations are not allowed.

Sharpness of detail is preferred over pictorial qualities. The goal of good nature photography is a slide telling a nature story, or one that might be used as a textbook illustration. Nature slides should be sharp, properly exposed, with true color rendition and without a distracting background as a particular fact is represented. All this, plus good composition and overall color harmony are the goal.

The nature story should be identified in the title of the slide. "Cute" titles are to be avoided. The title is part of the presentation, and is often read at the time or competition, so that all may be sure of what is being shown. "Yellow Flowers" is not a good nature title. It should be more specific such as "Western Skunk Cabbage."

A Naturalist's Calendar

The late John B. Moore, a prolific SLCC nature photographer, first presented this list of nature photographic specimens. John's list was originally intended to represent popular subjects in places where each could be found in relative abundance. Obviously, each specimen can be found elsewhere. Or, is the "when" category exact, but is intended as a general guideline only. A few items have been added to John's original calendar.

Location Abbreviations

Arboretum Missouri Botanical Garden Arboretum (I-44 to Gray Summit)

Busch Busch Wildlife Area (Hwy 94 South from St. Charles)

Cuivre Cuivre River State Park (I-70 to 79, north to Winfield, 47 west to 147, follow signs)

Lone Elk Lone Elk County Park (I-44 to 141, Valley Park Exit, follow signs on the outer road to park entrance)

Marais Marais Temps Clair (94 north/St. Charles to Intersection H, follow signs)

Rockwood Rockwood Reservation (Hwy 100 to south on Hwy 109)

St. Francis

Valley View St. Francis State Park (Hwy 67 north of Bonne Terre)

Glades Valley View Glades Conservation Area (Hwy B between 30 and 21)

Washington Washington State Park (12 – 15 miles south of Hillsboro on Hwy 21)

Photography Calendar

What to look for:	Where to look:	When to look:
Bellwort	Arboretum, Bush Rockwood	April
Bloodroot	Arboretum, Rockwood	April
Bluebells	Arboretum	April
Box Turtles	Wooded area	June – August
Buckeyes	Plantain	September – October
Bullfrogs	Ponds	July – October
Butterflies	Wildflowers, Butterfly Weed	June
Butterfly Weed	Arboretum, Washington	June – August
Carrion Beetles	Dead Animals	June – August
Caterpillar Hunter	Anywhere	May
Caterpillars	Anywhere Food	April – May
Columbine	Arboretum, Shaw's Garden	April – July
Deer	Busch, Lone Elk	Year Round
Dragonflies	Cuivre, Marais, Anywhere	June – August
Ducks	Lone Elk, Zoo, Parks	October
Dutchman's Breeches	Arboretum, Busch, Cuivre	April
Elk	Lone Elk	Year Round
Fritillaries	All locations	Last week in May
Geese, Goslings	Busch, Lone Elk	April – June
Glade Flowers	Valley View	May – July
Henbit	Cornfields, Yards	April – May
Hepatica	Rockwood, Washington	April
Hickory Horn Devil	Biological labs	September
Indian Paintbrush	Arboretum, Busch, St. Francis	May – June
Leopard Frogs	Cuivre, Ponds	August
Lizards	Woodpiles, Rocks	April – June
Lotus	Busch, Marais, Ponds, Shaw's	August
Milkweed Bugs	Milkweed	June – September
Mushrooms	All locations	After rains
Owls	Busch, Large trees	April – May
Pawpaws	Woods	May
Praying Mantis	Anywhere	September – October
Question Marks	On Elm leaves	June – August
Red Admirals	On nettles	July – August
Rose Mallow	Marais	July – August
Snakes	Busch, Cuivre, Marais	April – May
Spiders	Arboretum, Busch, Cuivre	September – October
Spring Beauties	Wooded areas	April
Sulphurs	Arboretum, Meadows	July – September
Tadpoles	Ponds, Streams	June – August
Toads	Anywhere	June – August
Tomato Hornworms	Tomato plants	June – August
Turtles	Busch, Marais, Ponds	April – June
Violets	Anywhere	April
Zebra Swallowtails	Arboretum, Busch, Cuivre	April - May

“Open Color” Competition

Open Color competitions have no limitations or restrictions as to subject or treatment. The only exception to this rule is when assigned subjects or themes are introduced in the Open Color category.

While Open Color is kind of an “anything goes” category, overall pictorial quality of the image including photographic fundamentals such as impact, composition, exposure and subject interest will be considered. Members can experiment with techniques to produce creative images which depart from reality and stimulate the imagination.

Photojournalism Competition

The Photojournalism category is defined by PSA as follows: “It must consist of story-telling images or sequences such as seen in news media, including human interest, documentary and spot news. The journalistic value of the photograph shall be weighed more than the pictorial quality. Titles serve as captions and are read aloud in competitions. In the interest of actual representation, artificially produced situations or photographic manipulations which alter the truth are ineligible and should not be submitted.”

It is important to note the “human element” of an event can provide a much stronger photojournalism image than a static picture of a news worthy event itself.

Twenty-Slide Sequence Competition

The Twenty-Slide Sequence competition allows entrants to use a series of twenty-slides to tell a story. Recorded or live narration is used with the images to provided a presentation that tells a story. Subject matter is unlimited.

Additional information is available in your Yearbook.

Travelogue / Photo Essay Competition

A competition where any number of slides may be used for a 30 minute, or less, sequence that tells a story about a travel adventure. Recorded narration is used with the images to provided a complete presentation telling a story.

Additional information is available in your Yearbook.

Photo Travel Competition

The Photo-Travel Division of PSA has an “official” definition. This definition is used as a guideline in all salon judging (including Mississippi Valley) and by our club judges. The definition is:

“...a color slide that captures the feeling of a time and place and portrays a land, a people or a culture in its natural state. Ultra close ups that lose their identity, model shots or manipulated slide do not qualify. Photo-travel slides are not limited to other lands or countries and may include those of domestic origin.”

This definition has stood the test of time (over 20 years) and may be perfectly adequate for experienced exhibitors, but probably lacks the helping hand a less experienced exhibitor needs. For our purposes we are going to revise the definition into a 4-part question with a Key caveat. The revised working definition that as an exhibitor you should ask yourself:

In the mind of a reasonably knowledgeable traveler (i.e. the judges) does this slide:

- a. Capture the feeling of a specific and identifiable place or areas (may be as large as a region)?
- b. Does it portray a land, a people and/or a culture that has meaning to the judge(s)?
- c. Does it meet basic pictorial test including simplicity?
- d. Does it have human interest?

Key Caveat: We need to remember that for most of us, travel tends to assume a view of life or culture that is different from what we see in our daily life.

Risks:

1. Not all judges have had the same photographic, education and travel experiences and thus there is likely to be a difference in the way they see, feel and evaluate our work.
2. Some judges will judge pictorially and nearly totally disregard to the photo-travel aspect.

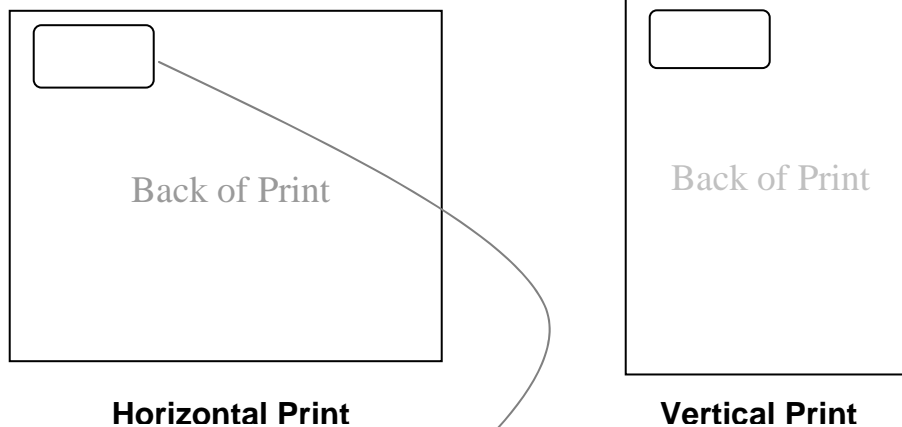
Print Competition

Print competitions are conducted several times throughout the club year. Entrants must provide mounted prints for competition. All prints must be mounted in a manner that facilitates judging in the print box with reflected light.

Prints must have one dimension at least 9 inches in length and can be no larger than 16x20. **Maximum mount size is 16x20 inches.**

Mounting can be cardboard or poster board foam. While any color mount may be used, Black or white is suggested to allow the judge to evaluate your image without a distracting color mount.

Prints **must** be marked on the back of the mount in **the upper left corner** with the title, maker's name and competition class as follows:



Example Label:

Title: Delicate Rose Petals
Name: John Doe
Class: B

Black & White Prints

A Black & White print contains a single range of tones of black and white. It may be modified by a single overall toning. (sepia, etc.) *Selective use of spot color is not permitted in Black & White competitions.*

Color Prints

A Color Print must include at least one color that is not a portion of the gray scale. Black and White images are not eligible in Color Print competitions.

Instructions for Cropping Slides

Items Needed:

Transparency Film	Gepe Glass Mount
Mask Selector	8x Loupe (magnifier)
Light Source (light box/table)	Scissors
Polyester Tape	Stick On Dots or Sharpie Pen
Stick On Labels	Bulb Air Brush
Alcohol Glass Cleaner	Lintless paper towel or lens cloth

General Instructions:

1. View your slide with a loupe and use the make selector to choose the size of a new mount, which enhances your slide and/or gets rid of distracting material around the edges.
2. Cut 1 or 2 pieces of tape (1/4") and stick them temporarily in an accessible place near you.
3. Remove the slide film from the original mount. If it is in a cardboard mount, cut across the words "color slide" or "Kodachrome" and gently pull the mount apart and remove the film holding it only by the edges. If your slide is in plastic mount, located the hinged side and begin pulling apart on the opposite side.

Mounting in a Glass Mount

1. Touch a tiny spot of glass cleaner or alcohol on the all glass surface. Clean with paper or lens cloth. DRY THOROUGHLY!
2. Check with loupe on the light box for lint and dirt.
3. Dust the film and glass again and slide from film under the slots on the white side of the mount. Carefully adjust so that your film is positioned the way you want it to appear.
4. Tape the slide in place also. Do not rely solely on the side slots to keep the film in place. Re-dust the remaining side and nap the two sides together. Examine with loupe for dust. You may have to take it apart to dust again.
5. View the slide by hand as you want it to appear on the screen and put a dot on the lower left hand corner of the slide. Write a title, your name and class on the mount with a permanent marker. You can also use printed labels affixed to the slide mount.

DO NOT USE "MOISTEN-TYPE" ADDRESS LABELS OR BALL POINT PENS!

*****FAILURE TO CORRECTLY SPOT YOUR SLIDE, OR HAVE YOUR NAME, CLASS AND TITLE ON SLIDE WILL RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE COMPETITION.*****