

Photography West Camera Club  
Minutes of Board Meeting – Revised  
January 11, 2024

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Greg Swinney, President  
Tom Richardson, Vice President  
Ken Kvam, Treasurer  
Eileen Arps, Director of Education  
Cheryl Gross, Secretary

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Jim Keane, Jan Keane, Mykee Cornelison, Nap O'Young, Larry Cowles, Pam Meindl, David Fudge, Darrell Pierson, John Frelich

The meeting was called to order at 2:58 p.m. by our president, Greg Swinney.

**Minutes:** Greg said there were no changes to the December minutes.

**Finances:** Ken Kvam announced we financially ended 2023 with a positive balance. Class fees were up and equipment fees were down. Cindy (Drolet) and Doug (Pumphrey) will audit the books.

**Classes:** Eileen shared that we have several new classes and teachers. All kinds of classes are coming up. The i-Phone class was a big hit. She's trying to advertise workshops. Announcements are made at the Friday meetings, the club room bulletin board is now available for additional advertising, and notices about classes can be found on Facebook.

**E-blasts:** Pam continues to send out e-blasts. Whatever she's given, she'll send out.

**ACCC:** Tom said John Frelich just got the ACCC Roundup schedule and passed it to him right away. There was discussion about what is (not) allowed in the nature category for ACCC. Greg shared that every body of water in the state of Arizona, except for rivers, is man made. Photos containing water that isn't a river can't be submitted in the nature category. Larry mentioned that *to his knowledge*, it's not an enforced rule. It comes down to it being an honor system when photographers submit their photos for the competition. Competitions within our club, however, may have their own rules about nature. Tom said our own rules about the matter should be told to the judges prior to their judging. That also applies to horses. Jim announced that the deadlines for submitting photos will be extended. He will let Gene Mitofsky know of those changes.

**New Competition:** Jim reminded the board and guests about a new level of competition in the club – Portfolio. Larry noted that the Portfolio class was full and several have already been turned in to him.

**Calendar Changes:** Speaking for Gene Mitofsky was Greg. He said when members need changes made to the events they oversee for the club calendar, that they are to go to their board reps as well as notify Marcella.

**Membership:** Nap said in recent days we received 4 new members and 1 renewal, putting our 2024 membership at about 190. Much discussion took place about the deadline for membership renewals which currently is January 31 being changed to January 29 as it takes a few days to process the bulk of the renewals according to Nap. After that, those not renewed would be dropped. It was suggested by Tom that we tell in advance those who've not yet paid that on February 1 their names will be dropped, reminding them that also will not be allowed to participate in photo competitions. Pam will also put out a message online about this.

**Monitoring:** We are always in need of monitors. Those in the mentor/mentee program should be encouraged to monitor twice as they are new. Should we give incentives to monitor? Cutting back on the monitoring time frame isn't wise as it will only push up the number of monitors needed. Tom suggested that when any of us monitoring find there isn't a 2<sup>nd</sup> person to share that duty to consider calling a person we know and ask if (s)he'd like to share that duty.

**Photo Display:** John Beach has his display ready for next month but is going to need help setting it up.

**St. Patrick's Party:** Social chair, Carol, has it scheduled for March 16 in the Sagebrush room. Announcements will be made and a slide designed for the Friday meetings.

**Mentor Program:** John Frelich said that Darrell Pierson has taken on a tough program. John watches the mentees in the classroom and tries to determine if they need additional help. He said the class members seem to understand. The mentees are learning and are working together. Their first session was great! Eileen even spoke for a few minutes at that first meeting.

**January Theme Competition:** Mykee said she received 24 photos from 12 beginners for this month. Awards will be passed out next Friday at the Stardust Theater meeting.

**Technology:** Greg said the club still needs someone to be the club room fix-it person. The two computers where we sign into the club room needs someone with an IT background to reconfigure it. No more power strips.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI):** David Fudge said he'll be taking classes in AI at the Texas School of Professional Photography in April and May. He said spotting AI images is easy now. But with the advancement of technology that in another couple years it won't be so easy. It was also asked if in Roundup competitions that an AI-created image can be entered in the creative category.

**Facebook:** It was suggested by Greg that we “let this matter die on the vine.” The rules are in place on the Facebook page for all to see. Nothing political may be posted, and no reposting will be allowed. All postings must be our own photos. Club-related events, classes, and trips are OK, too. Larry said over time if rules need adjusting, those will be addressed as they pop up. He and Kelly have been discussing this. Our rules are basic – being kind sums it up as Ken said.

**Swap Meet:** Eileen is organizing a members-only swap meet, the date yet to be determined. She said it’ll be only a 1-day event. Any equipment purchased from sellers will be done personally between the buyers and sellers. No monies will go through the club treasurer. The board is not to be involved with pricing, and no percentage of proceeds will go to the club. We are a non-profit club.

**Club Equipment:** Greg said we have a couple of printers we’d like to get rid of, perhaps consider Best Buy as they take some items for free. There’s too much in “Darrell’s room”, making it cramped in there. Ken said if anything on the inventory list is removed from the club, he needs to know so that he can update that list.

**Organization Chart:** Tom is working on updating that document and asked questions about which duties belong to whom. Also, Jan is going to update the club brochure. Both Tom and Greg suggested several changes. Tom will send out the revised chart for approval.

**Club Room Usage:** There was some recent damage to equipment in a locked studio. Additionally, the key to that studio was left in that studio. Darrell said the key to that door must remain in the monitor’s desk except to lock/unlock that door. There is no duplicate key, and Sun City West cannot access it, either. If the key is lost or locked in that room, the club must hire a locksmith – at the club’s expense – to open that door. We’d like to see a sign-up sheet for using that room.

**PSA Competitions:** A discussion took place about this competition. Larry said he’s our club’s rep and that Mark McKinney is the one who chooses the photos for submission to it. We’d like to know what the criteria and process are for Mark’s choosing the photos because no one knows.

**Ambassador Program:** This program requires extensive phone calling with almost zero results in response from those who are called. Greg decided that for now we will drop that program. If down the road there is a need to bring it back, then we will.

**Meeting closure:** Larry made a motion to end the meeting, with a second to that motion by Ken. All voted aye. Meeting adjourned at 4:20.

Respectfully submitted  
Cheryl Gross, Secretary