



When words become unclear, I shall focus with photographs.
When images become inadequate, I shall be content with silence

-Ansel Adams



<http://www.champaigncountycameraclub.org/>

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Champaign County Camera Club History

The Champaign County Camera Club was founded in November, 1935, on the campus of the University of Illinois as the Photon Camera Club. After several name changes, it became known as the Champaign County Camera Club. The Club meets in Turner Hall on the ACES campus of the University of Illinois.

At the Club's inception, the primary medium of work, presentations and competitions was black and white photography, with members doing all of their own lab work -- development of negatives and printing of photographs -- often in their own darkrooms. It was not until 1950 that color slides became a feature of the Club's work. Until the mid-1990's, the Club retained the requirement that any prints exhibited had to be the work of the exhibitor. This was not too arduous for black and white work, but with the more narrow latitude required in doing color lab work, this rule was finally repealed in the late 1990's to allow prints to be printed commercially. The Club now also allows prints to have been made using any available digital techniques, and digital photography has become the main medium of photography for the Club's members.

The Club has several competitions a year, including a Salon each April. All Salon competitions are judged by non-member judges, usually from Chicago, Peoria, Bloomington-Normal or Decatur.

Club meetings cover a variety of topics. These include lectures on various aspects of photography, most recently on the use of Photoshop. Each year the Club has four intracub competitions, with the categories varying from year to year. Most of these are digital image competitions, with one print competition. In addition, a year end Salon is held each April with a digital competition and a print competition. The Club also has a competition each May with the Bloomington-Normal Koda Roamers Camera Club. This competition is called the I-74 Challenge, and is held in alternate years in Urbana and Bloomington.

The Club is a charter member of the Central Illinois Camera Clubs Association (CICCA) formed in 1950. Members of our Club have served as President and other officers of CICCA. CICCA conducts two Salons each year, a Fall Salon in which Clubs compete, and a Spring Salon in which individuals compete. These competitions currently include slide images, digital images and prints.

The Champaign County Camera Club is recognized as a campus-community organization by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Club meets twice a month September through November and January through March. It meets once in December and has one or two meetings in April in addition to its annual Salon in April. Most meetings of the Champaign County Camera Club are held in Turner Hall on the UIUC campus, and are open to the public.

For those persons interested in the early days of the Club, the Urbana Free Library's Archives has an abundance of materials.

Champaign County Camera Club Web Page

The Champaign County Camera Club Web Page may be found at:

<http://www.champaigncountycameraclub.org/>

The Web Page provides key information regarding the club activities, officers and links to other Camera Club organizations throughout Central Illinois. In addition a gallery of Club Member photos is available.

Champaign County Camera Club Newsletter

The Champaign County (CCCC) publishes a newsletter which is provided to all members of the club. The newsletter is distributed to CCCC members through E-Mail as well as being available on the CCCC Web Page.

The newsletter contains information regarding club activities, dates and information regarding competition and other items of interest.

Champaign County Camera Club Officers

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Champaign County Camera Club Affiliations

Central Illinois Camera Club Association (CICCA)

The Champaign County Camera Club is an active member of the Central Illinois Camera Club Association (CICCA), which is composed of various camera clubs (not individuals) in Central Illinois, Iowa and Indiana. Each camera club sends a club member to act as its CICCA representative throughout the year and the annual meeting.

CICCA events include the annual meeting, a fall “club” banquet and Salon, a spring “individual” Salon, and occasional inter-club competitions. The fall and spring salons provide competitions in slides (Pictorial, Nature and Creative), prints (monochrome, color & commercial) and digital images.

All CCCC members are eligible to compete in CICCA salons.

CICCA also publishes a newsletter, the “CICCA Courier”, which is provided to all members of camera clubs associated with CICCA. The “CICCA Courier” is distributed to CCCC members through E-Mail.

Photographic Society of America (PSA)

The Photographic Society of America is the largest organization of its kind in the world and caters to both amateurs and professionals in all areas of photography. The Central Illinois Camera Clubs Association (CICCA) is a member of PSA

Champaign County Camera Club

COMPETITIONS

The Champaign County Camera Club members enjoy being associated with an organization which has a rich tradition in photography competition. The Club endeavors to develop an atmosphere of friendly competition among its members and with other clubs. These events allow us to assess the state of our photographic skills against those of other photographers as well as being recognized for our own good work.

Judging the Competitions

Judges. Three independent judges are obtained for each CCCC competition. These are typically non-club members, who are either photographers themselves or have experience in judging photographic competitions.

Judging. There are typically two to three rounds of judging for each digital, slide or print category. However, all images in a category are usually “screened” by the judges for a second or two before the judging begins. In the first round, the judges are asked to vote independently (i.e., without conferring) on a 5 point scale as follows:

- 5 Outstanding/Superior image (very well-composed and technically well-executed)
- 4 Above average image (good composition, no minor flaws)

- 3 Average image (average composition, minor technical flaws)
- 2 Below average image (below average composition with one or more minor technical flaws – e.g., slightly out of focus or over or under-exposed, etc)
- 1 Flawed image (poor composition with perhaps no center of interest and one or more significant technical flaws – e.g., key parts of image are out of focus, significantly over or under-exposed; one or more distracting elements, etc)

Any image receiving a total of nine or more points in the first round of judging is considered an “Acceptance” image and is eligible for consideration for one of the “Four Places” or “Honorable Mention”. However, depending on the number of “Acceptance” images, the judges may ask for one or more “in” or “out” rounds. In these rounds, the judges again vote independently, but this time either vote “1” to keep the image in for further consideration or vote “0” for out, meaning it should be removed from further consideration.

When the judges are satisfied they have sufficiently narrowed down the field to just those images they wish to consider for “Places” and “Honorable Mention,” they are free to talk among themselves to reach a decision on the “1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Place” images and any number of “Honor Mentions” they deem appropriate.

After all competition categories have been judged, the winning images (First Four Places and all Honorable Mentions) in each category are shown in reverse order with the judges invited to comment.

CCCC Salon Judging. The judging of the Annual Salon competition follows the same process as that noted above. All “First Place” digital images from all Salon digital categories are then considered by the judges for the Digital Image of the Salon. In the same manner, the judges select a Print of the Salon. These selections are made by the judges with no club members present and are announced by the judges at the evening show following dinner.

CICCA Judging. The judging process at CICCA competitions varies somewhat from the process used by the CCCC as described above. Although three independent judges are still used, they score the images on a seven point scale between 3 and 9. In CICCA competitions the “rule of thumb” is to “Accept” approximately one-third of the images entered into each competition category. Then approximately one-third of the “Acceptances” are selected as “Honor” images. Then the very top image in each category is awarded a “Medallion.” More than one Medallion will be awarded according to the following rule: One Medallion is awarded for each 200 images entered in a category, or fraction thereof. E.g., if 260 digital images are entered in Nature, two Medallions will be awarded.

Competition Number

Each club member is assigned a “**Competition Number**” which is utilized by the member in all areas of competition, Digital, Slide and Print. This number is unique to that member and is used to identify the member’s images.

Definitions of CCCC Salon Digital Categories

- A: Landscapes and/or Waterscapes:** Hand of man should appear minimally in these images.
- B. People:** Any aspect of human activity featuring one or more person. This category includes portraits of people.

- C. Fauna:** Includes both wild and domesticated fauna.
- D. Flora:** Includes both wild and domesticated flora.
- E. Architecture:** Can be an image showing small architectural details up to a large number of structures, including buildings and bridges and other man-made structures.
- F. General:** Anything.
- G. Contemporary/Creative:** Images should have a contemporary or creative feeling. This is the primary category for strongly manipulated, very drastically altered digital images, although such images may also be entered in “**F. General**”.

Additional CCCC Digital Competitions

For other Club competitions held during the year categories are identified and definitions provided in the summer newsletter prior to the competition year.

Champaign County Camera Club Competition Rules

Digital Images

Number of Images

A member may submit up to four (4) digital images for each category of CCCC competition held during the year.

A member may submit up to four (4) digital images in any of the seven CCCC Spring Salon categories with a total maximum of twenty-one (21) images.

“Sizing” digital image files

The Maximum image size is **1024 horizontal by 768 vertical pixels.** Size your image so that in the **horizontal direction the maximum number of pixels is 1024.** In the **vertical direction, the maximum number of pixels is 768.** For example, an image that is 1024 x 740 is acceptable, but one that is 1024 by 790 is not. The latter would have to be resized so that the vertical is no larger than 768. **The type of file is jpg. The color space should be sRGB.** The file must be “**8bit color or black and white.**” Finally, the image file size should be less than **1MB**

Note: (For CICCA competitions the file size must not exceed 500k.)

“Labeling” digital files

The image file should be labeled as follows: S_J_N_T.jpg where

S is the subject category letter (for example A, B or C)

J is the Image number (starting at 1, and increasing sequentially for the number of images you have entered in the specific category).

N is your competition number (for example, 37, 63, 03, 99)

T is the title of the image, using no spaces, using upper case for first letter of each word, using lowercase for all other letters (here are some examples of Titles: AllertonPark, LamarBridge, ARiverRunsThrough).

Note: (Each identifier (S, J, N, T) is immediately followed by an underscore character.)

In one recent competition, competition categories were A: Diagonals, B: People, C: Creative/Contemporary. Here are some examples:

If a member entered three images in Diagonals (category A), four images in People (category B), and two images in Creative/Contemporary (category C), then the image files would be labeled as follows:

A_1_37_SaltForkReflection.jpg	A_2_37_RainbowArches.jpg
A_3_37_OverandUnder.jpg	B_1_37_UglyMug.jpg
B_2_37_BackOff.jpg	B_3_37_GimmeSomeRoom.jpg
B_4_37_TooClose.jpg	C_1_37_Boo.jpg
C_2_37_InterstateStreaks.jpg	

CCCC Digital Image Manipulation

Definition: Digital Image: The image must originate as a photograph made with a digital or film camera. Its final version must be in the jpg. Digital format. The image must be made by the entrant. The image must be original and may not incorporate elements produced by anyone else.

Definition: Photo-Realistic Digital Image:

This is a digital image in which the original photographic content predominates. While alteration of the image by the maker is permitted, the alteration should not predominate or be obvious. **Blending of images from different scenes is prohibited.**

CCCC Digital Image Awards

Images: Accepted, Honorable Mention, Placement

All entries within each category are judged as one group

Images in each competition category which are judged to be noteworthy are given one of three levels of recognition. **Accepted, Honorable Mention** or **Place**.

If an image has been awarded an “**Honorable Mention, or Place**”, the only other time it may be re-entered in a CCCC competition, is the “**Salon**” competition or in the **I-74 Challenge**.

If an image has been awarded an “**Honorable Mention, or Place**” in CCCC competition it may be entered in a **CICCA** competition.

Images entered in **Digital Competition** may be entered in **Print Competition** at another time.

CCCC Salon Print Competition Rules

- 1. Competition Number:** Your “Competition Number” is the same as your monthly Competition Number
- 2. Participation:** Competition is open only to members who have been enrolled in the Club and paid their dues at least one month before the Salon.

A member may submit no more that eight (8) small prints and six (6) large prints.

3. Categories:

- A: Small Prints:** A print is small if it is **8.5” x 12” or smaller**.
Small Prints should be mounted on **11” x 14” mounts**.
- B: Large Prints:** A print is large if it **exceeds 8.5” x 12”** in any dimension.
Large Prints should be mounted on **16” x 20” mounts**.

Note: We allow a small amount of tolerance in the event that the print looks better on a mount not quite the two basic sizes. Please note that CICCA requires 11” x 14” or 16” x 20” mounts and prints are disqualified if the mounts vary more than fractions of inches from these sizes. If you are intending to submit the print to either of the CICCA Salons, you must adhere to the size restrictions.

- 4. Labels:** The following information must be given on the back of the print mount near the upper left hand corner:
 - Maker’s name and competition number.
 - Category letter and print number.
 - Title of print.

Note: The maker’s name must not appear on the front of the picture mount.

- 5. Entry Blank:** The entry blank should be filled out and submitted with the prints. Number the prints consecutively in each category beginning with the No.1. **Use separate entry blanks for small and large prints.** Entry forms will be provided prior to the competition.

6. Print Eligibility: Prints may be printed using any technique including commercial or digital printing. In all categories, the original image must be made by the competitor.

CCCC Print Competition Awards

Prints: Accepted, Honorable Mention, Placement

All entries within each category are judged as one group

Images in each competition category which are judged to be noteworthy are given one of three levels of recognition. **Accepted, Honorable Mention or Place.**

A print given an “**Accepted, Honorable Mention, or Place**” in CCCC competition may be entered in a **CICCA** competition.

Images entered in **Print Competition** may be entered in **Digital Image Competition** at another time.

Central Illinois Camera Club Association

CICCA Individual Salon Digital Completion Rules

Number of Entries

Each individual may submit **five (5) entries** in each category. Even though this is an individual salon, to facilitate handling of digital images by the digital committee and the host club, digital image entries for all members in one club should be burned onto a single CD.

Digital Images Preparation:

Format.....jpeg
Dimensions.....**1024 X 768** (Images are to be no larger than 1024 pixels horizontally, and no larger than 768 pixels vertically.)
File size.....no larger than **500 kbs** prior to saving..
Numbering.....Please use the following convention:

N-01-15-026

The letter is the category. **N** stands for “Nature”, **P** for “Pictorial”, and **C** for “Creative/Contemporary”. The first number (**01**) is the image number and must consist of **two digits**. The last number (**026**) is the club member’s number and must be **three digits**. **Note: This numbering format must be FOLLOWED EXACTLY.** If your club member number only has two digits then place a **0** in front of your member’s number.

The “Nature” and “Pictorial” category requirements for digital will be the same as existing CICCA rules for slides, with only selective editing allowed (as described below). The “Creative/Contemporary” category permits entries regardless of the amount of manipulation and also permits entries meeting the requirements for the CICCA contemporary slide category.

Manipulation of Images

(As stated in the Peoria Color Camera Club Manual)

With the perception by some that digital photography is synonymous to digital manipulation, it is essential to address the ethics on “rules” of digital manipulation. It is left to the integrity and conscience of photographers to apply these rules. The following post capture processing with the aid of a computer and software such as Adobe Photoshop, within limits will

be acceptable in all Nature and Photojournalism competitions. (**CICCA has no Photojournalism Category.**) More freedom for manipulation is acceptable in Creative and Pictorial competitions.

Selective Editing: Adjustments can be made selectively to your photo. Cloning, dodging, burning, etc. improve your photo or remove imperfections or minor distracting elements, etc. are acceptable. However, using any editing tools to duplicate, create or move major elements of your image are not permitted.

Adjustment Layers: Levels, Curves, Color Balance, Hue/Saturation and others as long as they do not create an unnatural look are acceptable.

Borders, Sharpening, Cropping and Resizing is acceptable.

CICCA Fall Print Competition

PRINT CATEGORIES:

A. Small Monochrome
C. Small Color

B. Large Monochrome
D. Large Color

Small Prints are defined as a maximum picture (or image) size of 8.5” x 12” that is mounted on an 11” x 14” board.

Large Prints are defined as a picture (or image) that is larger than 8.5” x 12” but not larger than 16” x 20” that is mounted on a 16” x 20” board.

Monochrome prints are defined as a print of one color or different shades of one color. Prints in this category are generally black and white or sepia tone.

Color prints may be made include traditional color photos or images that are hand colored or tinted.

For the Annual Fall Salon, each club may submit 40 prints in each of the categories – Monochrome and Color. This may include any combination of large and small prints.

Print Identification: An official print label (available from your CICCA representative) must be placed in the **UPPER RIGHT CORNER** of the image. This sticker will include the following information. Submitter’s name, title, club number, and category letter. **For the Annual Fall Salon**, the CICCA representative will assign print numbers as they log the prints for salon competition.

CICCA Salon Practices Manual

The following is a synopsis of Print Rules section excerpted from the **CICCA Salon Practices Manual**. For more detailed explanation, please see the complete section.

IV. PRINT DIVISION

A. CATEGORIES

1. Monochrome print category (A: Small; B: Large)

A monochrome print is defined as a print in one color or different shades of one color. A single tone print. Generally, a monochrome print is thought of as a black and white print.

2. Color print category (C: Small; D: Large)

A color print is one made either by a regular color photography process or by hand coloring or tinting or by printing digitally.

B. PRINT SIZE DEFINITION

1. Small prints (all categories) may be any size up to but not larger than 8.5 x 12 inches, and must be mounted on 11 x 14 inches mount board. Measuring by square inches.

2. Large prints (all categories) may be any size larger than 8.5 x 12 inches but not larger than 16 x 20 inches, and must be mounted on 16 x 20 inch mount board. Measuring by square inches.

C. PRINT COMPETITION RULES

1. The Annual Fall Salon - each member club may submit a maximum of 40 prints in the Monochrome category and 40 prints in the Color print category. In each category, these 40 prints can be in any combination of small and large prints. No individual member, regardless of the number of clubs of which he or she is a member may submit more than eight (8) prints in the CICCAs annual salon.

2. Competitors must use the submittal forms, or photocopies thereof, that are distributed by the CICCAs secretary. Entrants are advised to use three (3) copies of the appropriate form for each category - two (2) copies must accompany the prints submitted when submitted to CICCAs salon print chairperson and one (1) copy may be retained for the entrant's records.

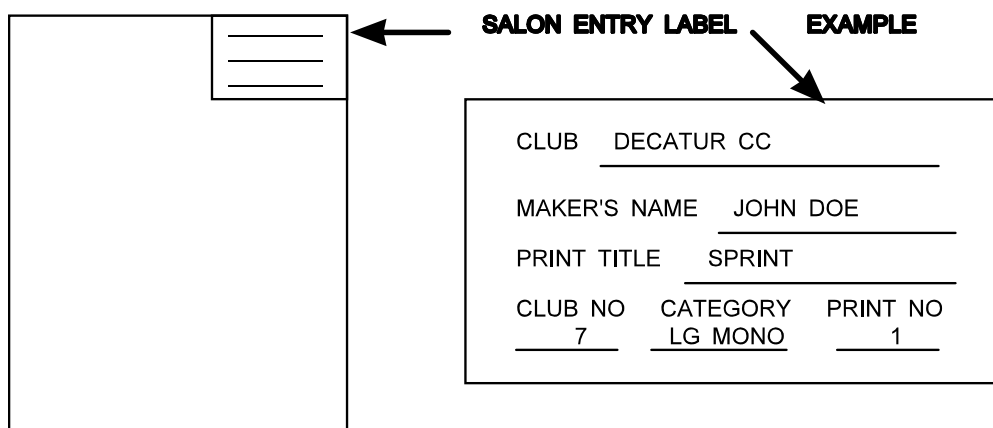
3. The Salon print chairperson's ruling in case of any dispute will be final. However, it is recommended that the print chairperson consult with the salon practices committee before making a final ruling.

D. INDIVIDUAL PRINT IDENTIFICATION

1. Each print entered must be identified by the submitter's club, name, title, club number, category letter, and print number (your CICCAs rep will enter the number) on the official print sticker supplied to the CICCAs representative by the CICCAs secretary (or a photocopy of same). It shall be mounted on the back of the print, in the upper right hand corner.

For the Fall salon, the category letters are:- A for small monochrome; B for large monochrome; C for small color; D for large color;

The following shows how the print shall be marked:



2. The submitter's name, title and etc. will not appear on the front of the print or the mount.
3. Failure to follow these rules will mean disqualification of the print.

CICCA Spring Print Competition

Print Categories:

Each individual may submit up to **five (5)** entries in each category. Eligibility of slides and prints are the same as the annual CICCA Fall Salon, except small and large prints shall be combined into one category. **The "Color Print" category includes both prints made by the photographer and commercially processed prints.**

Print Size Definitions:

Small Prints: Small prints may be **any size up to 8.5 x 12 inches and mounted on a 11"x 14" board.**

Large Prints: Large prints may be **any size larger than 8.5 x 12 inches and mounted on a 16"x 20" board.**

A given image may be entered in only one form in a salon. For example, an image entered as a digital image may not also be entered as a slide or as a print in the same salon.

Entry Fees:

Entry fees are determined prior to each salon. Entry fees must accompany the individual entry form and entries. A separate entry form must be completed for each category that is entered. Entry forms are distributed for completion prior to each salon.

Labels:

All prints must have the following information **on the back of the prints.**

Title	Print Category
Name and address of maker	Print Number

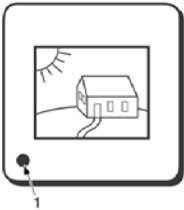
See the instructions related to labeling given for the Fall Salon.

CICCA Slide Competitions

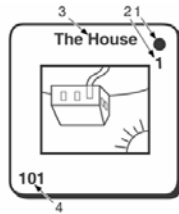
Slide Preparation

1. View the slide in the normal manner.
2. Place "thumb spot" (1) in the lower left corner.
3. Rotate the slide 180°, positioning thumb spot (1) in the upper right corner.
4. Put a sequence number (2) below the thumb spot.
- NOTE:** Use the sequence number from the entry form.
5. Place the Title (3) to the left of the thumb spot.
6. Place your member number (4) in the lower left corner.
- NOTE:** Turn the slide over and place your name (5) on the back of the slide.
- NOTE:** Clean your slides before submitting them.

Normal View



Rotate 180°



Reverse View

