

Camera Club

Serving Laguna Woods Village for 50 Years

Who We Are and Where

“The purpose of the Camera Club is to promote and advance the art of amateur photography and related arts among members of the Club and residents of Laguna Woods Village through participation and education.” (opening paragraph of the Camera Club Bylaws)

The Camera Club of Laguna Woods has provided fifty years of continued service to its members, Laguna Woods Village residents and the surrounding community. We are grateful that Laguna Woods Village residents have supported our club by providing minimum cost meeting and work space for most of those fifty years.

Laguna Woods Village has created a first class Photography Lab and two Classrooms for its residents and Camera Club members. The Photography Lab originally was equipped with dark rooms, a classroom, mat cutting and mounting room equipment and supplies. As digital photography grew in popularity the Photography Lab has transitioned from dark rooms to a digital photography lab with computers, professional printers furnished by Laguna Woods Village, and printer paper and ink. In 2011, a ten-station Learning Center was added and equipped with computers for hands-on digital photography editing and processing instruction.

In addition to facilities and supplies provided by Laguna Woods Village, the Camera Club provides photo editing and processing software for all of the computers. Volunteer Camera Club staff manage and operate the Photography Lab for Laguna Woods Village and facilitate programs for village residents and club members.

What We Do ---- Camera Club Activities and Events

On the second and fourth Mondays of each month (except December) Camera Club meetings are held in the Laguna Woods Village Performing Arts Center (formerly Clubhouse 3) in Dining Room 2 at 6:30 pm. The second Monday is a **Showcase, Digital Slide Show**, presented by club members or **Photography Presentation** by professional photographers. Six times a year, on the fourth Monday, **Digital Projected Image Critiques** are held in which club members submit their photos which are then critiqued and awarded a score by a professional photography judge; the other five fourth Mondays are Showcases or presentations.

Photography workshops are presented each month, usually on the second Tuesday, in the Photography Classroom at Clubhouse 4. These workshops present various facets of photography or photo editing and processing. **Classes** are presented in the Learning Center as frequently as facilitators are available.

Two Saturdays each year **Photography Print Critiques** are held in the Photography Classroom at Clubhouse 4, Members submit their mounted and matted photography prints which are critiqued and awarded a score by a professional photography judge.

The scores from the critiques are accumulated for the year and awards for **top honors** are presented at the Annual Holiday and Awards Dinner held in December.

A **Year-end Competition** is held on the first or second Saturday of each year in which club members submit Digital Images or Prints from previous Digital Projected Image or Print Critiques to be judged by a panel of three professional photography judges. Awards for the top images and prints are presented at the **Annual Holiday and Awards Dinner** held in December.

The **Digital Photography Lab and Mat Cutting and Mounting Room** are available for use by Laguna Woods Village residents and resident Camera Club members. The Digital Photography Lab and Mat Cutting and Mounting Room are staffed by **Camera Club Member Supervisors** five and one-half days per week between 9am and noon and 1pm and 4pm. All individuals utilizing the Digital Photography Lab are expected to have sufficient knowledge of the equipment and software to use it properly. Supervisors are not expected to instruct or advise the users on the use of the equipment and software, although they may assist the users if the supervisor has knowledge of the equipment or software being used by the user. The primary functions of Supervisors are to monitor the equipment use, assure that all users of the equipment have signed a Laguna Woods Village waiver, distribute supplies when required by the users and collect the fees at the end of the user session. (For insurance liability reasons non-resident club members are not permitted to use the Photography Lab equipment).

The **Camera Club Board of Directors** provides club management and coordinates the activities and events described above. Officers of the Board direct volunteer teams in each of these areas to develop the programs, workshops and classes. The Camera Club of Laguna Woods is organized as a 501c-(7) non-profit corporation.

What You Can Do

As you can recognize from reading the above paragraphs, operating your Camera Club is no small task. In reality it is a small business and requires people to operate. We invite you to participate by volunteering some of your time, experience and talents in one or more of the teams that are formed to carry out the functions of the club.

Some of the teams are:

Photography Lab Supervisors and/or Substitutes – 3 hours per week or on call

Training Facilitators – short 2 to 4 hour classes in the Learning Center or assist the facilitator

Workshop Presenter – 2 to 3 hour workshops in the Photography Classroom or assist the presenter

Computer and Software Maintenance – iMac or PC Windows 7 or 10 – as needed

Membership – maintain membership rosters and update Contacts lists in Gmail and Constant Contact

Hospitality – register members and guests at Camera Club events and classes

Publicity -- prepare and distribute information to publicize Showcases, Critiques, Workshops, Classes, special events

Photographers at Laguna Woods Activities – Village Games, Clown College, Senior Summit and more

Photographers for Hire – from time to time we receive calls for photographing private parties

Board of Directors – we will be electing 2017 officers in November – we need you to serve!

If any of these areas resonate with you, or if you have talents or experience in another area that would be of benefit to your club, please email lhcameraclub@comline.com and let us know your name, email address and/or phone number. Add a brief explanation of your interest and we will follow up with you. We'd like to enjoy the experience with you and make our club even greater.

By: Mac McNamar, President - July 11, 2016