



RIDGEWOOD
CAMERA CLUB

MEMBER RESOURCE GUIDE

This Resource Guide outlines the many advantages and benefits of being an RCC member. To that end, it contains descriptions of the various resources available to you. Each of the sections link to pages within the RCC website to provide you with further details about that topic. **The active links are underlined.** We hope that this consolidation of resource information makes it easy for you to navigate the website and gets you the information you are seeking in a streamlined fashion. If you have any suggestions how we can improve this Resource Page, please send an email to [Website Help Correspondence](#).

THE RCC WEEKLY UPDATE EMAIL

Each Monday morning you will receive an *RCC Weekly Update* email. The *Update* lists all the happenings that will occur during the following two weeks. In the *This and That* section, you will find a brief description of activities with links provided for details for a given item. We also include a *Further Afield* section so you can see at-a-glance what is happening over the next several months. The *RCC Weekly Update* is our primary source of communication to the membership. In addition to the email, the *Update* is posted on our Facebook page and on the [RCC Weekly Update link on the website](#).

NEW MEMBER RESOURCE — YOUR SPONSOR

New Members are assigned a Sponsor whose name and contact information are indicated in your welcome letter and provide you a single point of contact for any information you may need related to RCC. The Sponsor may not always know the answer, but they will know where to get it. To find your Sponsor and their contact information, go to the [Sponsors Page](#).

RCC MEMBER PRIVACY / WEBSITE ACCESS

The RCC website is the hub of club information and the activities we offer. It is our policy to protect members' personal information and, as such, we have password protected access to those pages. With privacy in mind we ask members to update their own personal information on the website if, for example, you change phone number, email, etc. [Updates to your member profile can be made at this](#)

[link](#). If you've misplaced the logon information required to access the protected pages of the Member section of the website, please contact either your Sponsor or email the [Membership Chairperson](#).

The website offers three different views: *Public*, *Member* and *Executive Committee*. The Public view shows page links for the general public (non-members). The Member section shows page links for RCC members, many of which are contained in this Resource Guide. The Exec Committee view has page links used by the RCC Executive Committee.

To select a particular view, go to the top left hand navigation bar and click on the view you want to see. Depending on the view you select, the Page listings differ. The views are designed to make it easier for each viewer to find the pages that pertain to them. Member and Exec Committee pages are password protected to protect members' personal information. The website uses fly out panels (>) to reach sub-pages conserve space.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are an opportunity to practice your photography in a group setting with other RCC members. We visit a variety of locations in the tri-state region usually on Saturdays or Sundays. Besides the chance to photograph, field trips are social excursions that let you get to know your fellow RCC members outside the club meetings. To view upcoming Field Trips, check the RCC Weekly Update or go to the [Field Trips page](#) for further information and signup.

WORKSHOPS

Besides our weekly meetings, we also offer in-depth workshops on other days that are conducted by experts in the field as well as fellow RCC members. These cover a variety of photographic topics intended to help you with the technical as well as aesthetic aspects of photography. They are generally conducted in person, providing a hands-on component, but recent workshops have been given on the Zoom platform which are recorded and available for later viewing. To view upcoming workshops, check the RCC Weekly Update or go to the [Workshops page](#) for further information and signup. Several [past Workshop videos](#) can be found on the website.

COMPETITIONS AND PCP (PHOTO CONTEST PRO) REGISTRATION

RCC hosts multiple image competitions throughout the year. Participants are grouped into Beginner (B) and Advanced (A) levels. The competition subjects range from Pictorial (image content is open) to Nature (narrowly defined content areas) to Assigned Subject (a specific topic). In an open setting, a

qualified judge comments on the strengths of the image (the photographer is not identified) and may suggest areas of improvement. Scores are assigned which count toward year-end recognition.

Image competitions can be a means to help you to improve your photography by getting constructive feedback. Even if you choose not to compete, watching a competition can be very useful and educational and help you develop your photographic skills.

If you plan to enter your images into competitions, you should become familiar with the [Competition Rules](#). This comprehensive document explains in detail the image categories, rules for both digital entry and prints, and also includes the scoring and awards assignments.

To compete (both digital and print), you will need to have access to PCP (Photo Contest Pro) which is the software platform used for conducting the competitions. Also, we often use PCP for image critiques and other club activities, so you should get setup with it. To register for PCP:

- Send an email to the Digital Competition Chairperson at this email address: pcpregistration@ridgewoodcameraclub.net
- In the email, use your First and Last Name exactly as shown on the [Membership List page](#); your desired password; and the email address you are registered with RCC.
- You may change your password once you are authorized in PCP.
- Instructions for entering images into PCP can be found at [Digital Entry Instructions](#).

Our Competition Chairs can help with digital entry issues you may encounter. Our Print Competition Chairperson can provide guidance on preparing for a Print competition. To find the scores from a competition, visit the [Competition Search Score page](#). Here is a [link to the current listing of Competition Chairpersons](#), who are part of the Executive Committee.

We also participate in NJFCC competitions as well as PSA Interclub competitions. The PSA competitions are managed by our PSA Interclub Chair; NJFCC competition entries are handled by members.

CREATIVE CHALLENGES

RCC offers project-based “Creative Challenges” each year. For example, creating your own website; putting together a body of work around a theme; a shoe-box challenge to gather, organize and present your boxes of family photos. The projects are announced early in the season giving members months to develop, refine and present their work. Informal meetings and discussions occur to help those participating get ideas or help if they get stuck. Look for announcements of Creative Challenges during our meetings, in the RCC Weekly Update or on the RCC Meetup page.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The club offers the following social media sites for the use of its members:

Facebook – We maintain a private Facebook Group for club members to share images, information and engage in discussion on any number of topics (mainly photography). [The Facebook page link is found here.](#) Click on the *Join Group* button to gain access.

Meetup – RCC has a private Meetup site used for ad-hoc member-conducted meetings, field trips, mini-workshops and even a book club. You will need to have your own Meetup sign-on. Then to gain access to the RCC Meetup site, go to the [RCC Meetup page](#) and click on the *Request to Join* button. Once activated be sure to set your notifications as desired. All members in the RCC Meetup site can create a Meetup. So, if you're going to the city to take pictures and want company, use the Meetup site to let other members know.

Flickr – We have a Ridgewood Camera Club Flickr group for members to post and share images. If you have a Flickr account, simply [join the Ridgewood Camera Club Group at this link.](#)

Instagram – While we don't have an Instagram account, the club uses the hashtag [#Ridgewoodcameraclub](#) to follow members' postings.

We strongly suggest that you sign up for the club's social media sites to take full advantage of all RCC activities and keep engaged with other members. The links to the Social Media sites are also listed on the *RCC Weekly Update* as well as the Member section of the club's website. If you need any assistance, please reach out to the [Social Media Chairperson](#) who can help you get started or answer questions you may have.

PLACES TO PHOTOGRAPH

This document titled [Places to Photograph](#) is a resource for members offering ideas of where to go locally to photograph. If you have new ideas to add to it, contact any of the compilers listed on the cover.

REBATES

RCC has an affiliation program with B&H Photo and Adorama for which the club's earned commission are rebated back to the member. You need to use the merchant's icon click-through on the RCC website. The rebates are 3% and 2% respectively. Details on how to use and claim rebates on purchases can be found at [this Rebate Instructions link.](#)

IMAGES

This section of the website contains various galleries of club event images (Club Galleries) as well as galleries for members (Member Galleries). Members have the opportunity to place images in their own gallery page and / or add a link to their website. If you wish to do so, read the *Instructions* tab in the [Image Galleries page](#).

ACRONYMS

Like all organizations, we use lots of acronyms. We hope this is a helpful guide.

PCP – Photo Contest Pro. This is the software platform we use for our competitions and other imaging activities. To become registered for PCP, send an email to pcpregistration@ridgewoodcameraclub.net. Instructions for entering images into PCP can be found at [Digital Entry Instructions](#).

NJFCC – The New Jersey Federation of Camera Clubs is an umbrella organization of camera clubs in New Jersey. It supports inter-camera club state-wide competitions and hosts Photorama, an annual one-day photography event. RCC Members can enter images into NJFCC competitions via PCP (see above). The dates are published in our Weekly Update, and NJFCC rules are in the [Competition Rules](#) document. More about NJFCC can be found on the [NJFCC website](#).

EC – The RCC Executive Committee is comprised of members who conduct the tasks of making RCC the club that it is. The current [EC members are listed here](#). Consider volunteering to assist any of these chairpersons. It's a terrific way to get to know the club, form friendships with fellow members and give back to the club. We always welcome new people and new ideas.

BPS – [Bath Photographic Society](#). This is what we call a sister-Club based in Bath, England. We share ideas between the clubs and are invited to attend each other's meetings. We hope one day to have a "field trip" to visit BPS.

NYMACC – Similar to the NJFCC, [NYMACC](#) is a recently formed umbrella organization of camera clubs in the New York / New Jersey region. They share information among member clubs offering access to on-line meetings and presentations. Anyone can subscribe to their newsletter to be informed of their current offerings.

PSA – The Photographic Society of America is an international organization promoting photography throughout the world. It offers competitions referred to as Exhibitions. Anyone can enter Exhibitions and have their work judged against photographers worldwide—you need not be a PSA member. Our

PSA Chairperson enters member images into various PSA Interclub competitions on our behalf. Visit the [PSA website](#) to see its many services.

NECCC – The New England Camera Club Council hosts a three-day event addressing many aspects of photography. It is held in Amherst, Massachusetts during July. Visit the [NECCC website](#) for details.
