



## Ohio Valley Camera Club

Your Club  
By Michael Adkins

Ask not what the Camera Club can do for you, but ask what you can do for the Camera Club. This statement is truer today than ever before because peoples' lives are so busy. Any non-profit Club needs its members to be involved for the Club to function. The Ohio Valley Camera Club has shown significant growth over the past year. This growth has brought new members who can help the Club continue to grow.

The Ohio Valley Camera Club needs you! The more someone puts into the Club the more you get back in return. The Club is over fifty-one years old and you, as a member, can take pride in the fact that you are associated with one of the most prestigious and oldest Camera Clubs in West Virginia. There is a great deal of opportunity to continue to build the Club and support our photographic community.

So, how can you as a member get more involved? The answer is simple. Just ask. There are always opportunities to become more involved. You can become involved in a small way as a committee member or on a larger scale as a project leader. You can work to become a board member or even an officer. Every month the Club offers programs. Even if you only have minimal experience and you have an area of interest that involves photography, do some research, learn the process and then put on a program for the membership. Not only do you learn through the process but you also help others broaden their interest in photography.

We also currently have several committees that need volunteers.

- First is the Nominating Committee. This committee of two Club members, appointed by the President, helps put together a list of candidates for office. They work to build the ballots and make recommendations of officers for the future leadership. These two committee members can not be officers or candidates for office. Current at-large board members are eligible to serve on this committee. In addition there is the Election Committee which is formed after the Nominating Committee has completed their work.
- The next committee is the Membership and Publicity Committee. This committee promotes the Club, welcomes guest at meetings, develops promotional materials and sends out press releases. Currently Mark Hamilton chairs this committee.

- The next committee is the Exhibition and Contest Committee. This committee helps conduct Club contest, keeps the Club membership informed as to contest and exhibitions that are available to Club members. Fred Huff chairs this committee.
- And finally the Program and Activities Committee helps develop monthly programs, Club outings, and other social and educational activities for the Club membership. Rick Jackson chairs this committee.

All of these committees need volunteers to assist and work with the chair.

We also have the need for members who would be interested in taking future roles of leadership. The club has an Executive Board along with the Officers that form the leadership of the Club. The board consists of four officers and three at large members. The Executive Board handles the business affairs of the Club as well as develops policies, rules and serves as leadership for the Club. For more information about how the board is elected see the Ohio Valley Camera Club Constitution under documents on our web page.

So, if you are a new member or you have been a member for years you have ample opportunity to become more involved with the Ohio Valley Camera Club. You can help shape the Club's future and help give back to the Club what it has given you. At the same time I promise you will become not only a better Club patron but also you will become a better photographer. Leadership and involvement helps develop pride, friendship and a great sense of accomplishment. If you are interested in becoming more involved please contact one of the board members or myself. We would be happy to help find that perfect spot for you.

Board members are as follows:

Michael Adkins – President

Tyson Smith – Vice President

Kathy Smith – Secretary and Web Master.

Herb Parsons – Treasurer

Fred Huff – at-large Board Member

Mark Hamilton – at-large Board Member

Rick Jackson – at-large Board Member

The Executive Board meets once a month. If you, as a member, would like to set in and observe a board meeting please contact one of the board members for more information and meeting times. Board meetings are open for members to attend.

Remember, the Ohio Valley Camera Club is your Club. Your involvement, your interest and your input is always valued and appreciated.

As President, I look forward to continue to serve the Club, educate and provide leadership. My email, phone and door are always open. Let me know what you think, how the Club can better serve you and how you would like to help serve the Club.

Michael Adkins, President