

Message from the President

September-October 2018

Every time I receive the Close-Up newsletter for the month, I always feel eager to immediately dive into it. All the wonderfully written articles to the amazing photos taken by our members have no doubt helped to foster your love of photography as it has mine. We are lucky that the judges of the 2018 PSA Newsletter competition seem to agree, as our newsletter tied for first place in both the Large Club and the “Best Competition Results” page categories. Congratulations to the 60+ members who contributed to the success of Close-Up during 2017 and a special thanks to Richard James for being an extraordinary editor for the last 10 years and to the Close-Up team for their ongoing work. Without the dutiful work of all of you, Close-Up would not have enjoyed such success and interest.

In a Club such as ours, it is you, the volunteers, that keep all the many wheels turning. The diversity of the Club members in skill, knowledge, and experience has been our greatest asset in finding help where it is needed. If you are not currently active in the Club, do you think that you might have some time now to give back? That way, the time that someone else invested in you can be passed on to other new and passionate members. Leading field trips, workshops, and writing for Close-Up are just a few examples of areas that could do with a few more volunteers. Because of the size of our membership, none of these are time consuming undertakings and they are very rewarding. Not only is it a way to meet more of our members, you will also learn more about photography and receive the fulfilment that comes from helping your fellow photographers. Scientific studies show that volunteering correlates with better health, longevity and personal happiness and fulfillment.

An example of ways you can help is with our field trips. Leading a field trip can be as simple as arranging to visit a great place you’ve found for the kind of shots you’re into. You don’t need to do much more than arrange the day and time with the Field Trip Coordinators and they will do the rest!

At present, we are especially looking for 4-5 Workshop Coordinators to help with the organization of the wonderful workshops that the club offers members throughout the year. This is a special opportunity to work closely with the other volunteers and have an influence in the types of workshops that you would be interested in attending and learning about.

So, if you think you’d like to help but are unsure what you’d like to do, send me an email or say hi at a meeting and I’m sure we can find something for you.

Teri VanWell, President