

The Photographic Society

OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, LIMITED P.O. BOX 2007, JOHANNESBURG

HONOURS AND AWARDS

THE Photographic Society of Southern Africa has conferred various honours and awards each year on its members since 1955 for both the rendering of outstanding service to photography, and the Society in particular, and to those whose work has met the established standards of proficiency. Of the four Honours available to members, only the Associateship may be applied for directly. The requirements for these four Honours are as follows:—

The Associateship is essentially awarded to those members whose work meets certain standards of proficiency and applications may be made in seven different sections. The standard established in 1955 by the 'Honours and Awards Committee' is slightly higher than those requirements necessary for the equivalent honour given by other internationally recognised photographic societies. This high standard is necessary if the Honour is to gain recognition here and overseas. Notwithstanding the limited number of possible candidates in South Africa, 29 Associateships have been conferred so far, many which went to holders of overseas honours. Members may apply for the Associateship in the six sections -Monochrome Prints or Slides, Recorded Slide Programmes. Colour Prints, Colour Slides, Cine Films, Documentary (books. articles, etc.). The remaining section, No. 7, that of 'Service to Photography,' cannot be applied for by the candidate; his local Society or other authority with knowledge of the candidate's photographic record may apply on his behalf.

Provision also exists for the awarding of Fellowship of the Society and rules for the granting of this Honour are to be promulgated shortly. In addition, the Board intends to propose certain amendments to the Articles of Association at the next Annual General Meeting so that the Award of Honorary Fellowship may be granted. One member has already been recommended for the award of this "Highest of All" Honour.

The Service Medal is awarded at the discretion of the Directors and the Honours and Awards Committee to those members (often called the backroom boys) who have rendered an important service to the Society, e.g. organising the Society's Annual Congress, etc. Twenty-one service medals have so far been awarded.

The Oscar has been awarded only four times since its inception in 1955. The holders of this coveted award rendered such meritorious services as founding and editing "Camera News," establishing the Motion Picture Division, inaugurating the Tape Recorded Programmes Committee, and building up the Society's membership on a big scale by the Membership Secretary.

Application forms for the Associateship are now available from the Hon. Secretary, Honours and Awards Committee, Photographic Society of Southern Africa, P.O. Box 2007, Johannesburg. The closing date for entries is 15th July, 1964.

FINEST EVER AMATEUR FILM SHOW IN JOHANNESBURG

LAST month we published the prize list of the recent East London Amateur Film Festival. Practically all the top award winners from this Festival have also been entered in the South African International Amateur Film Festival due to be screened at the University Great Hall on June 18th and 19th.

These films include the winner of the 1963 Cannes Festival, several of the films that were runners-up there, four films that have been awarded Gold Medals at U.N.I.C.A. and top award winners in the past year or two in the American 'P.S.A. Ten Best' Contest, the A.C.W. 'Ten Best' and so on, together with other world class films not previously screened locally.

Although judging has not been completed at the time of going to Press, there can be no doubt that amateur cinematographers in and near Johannesburg are in for a real film festival treat. With public screenings planned for only two nights, it is certain that the two equally good programmes will be packed full of films that no one can afford to miss. Booking is at Show Services, Jeppe Street, Johannesburg, and special arrangements are being made to accommodate members from all Clubs along the Reef.

SOUTH AFRICAN SUCCESSES IN THE A.C.W. "TEN BEST"

We were pleased to see several South African films featured in this year's Ten Best awards—organised by the British Cine Journal, the "Amateur Cine World." In fact, outside the British Isles, there seem to have been more South African films placed than from any other country. They were:—

Gold Stars

"FEATHERED HERITAGE," Geoff Stirk, Johannesburg. "GAY PAREE," Stanley Kaplan, Pretoria.

Two Stars.

"THE KARIBA STORY," Brigadier and Mrs. E. Bader, Durban.

"THIS IS THE LIFE," Les Baines, Springs.

"ALL FOR SIXPENCE," Les Baines, Springs.

There were interesting editorial comments regarding Geoff Stirk's masterpiece, which won high awards in several contests in Southern Africa last year. The Editor obviously felt that it deserved to be placed in the 'Ten Best,' a placing it narrowly missed—the reason it failed to do so given by at least one judge was that it 'was too professional!' If that is grounds for marking a film down, no wonder that many of the A.C.W.'s 'Ten Best' placings in previous years are so poorly thought of when they are obtained for showing in this country!

SLICK WORK

When Jacques Clammandrier and his charming wife arrived in Johannesburg en route to East London, having won the air trip there as part of their prize in the East London Film Festival, they were met at Jan Smuts Airport by Chas. Knowles and Bill Paterson, President of the J.P.S. and Chairman of its Cine Committee respectively. A film was made of their arrival, rushed in for urgent processing, taken home and edited (using titles and establishing shots made the day before) and put on the evening plane the same night, to be screened at East London the following night.

We doubt if the professional newsreels could have done better. A nice bit of work assisting a sister club, Bill and Charles!

U.N.I.C.A. CONGRESS

This, the world's major amateur cine congress, is to be held in Amsterdam from August 16th to 23rd this year. It consists of a week seeing and judging the films entered to represent their countries in the only inter-country contest of its type, attending discussions and plenary meetings on the future of amateur cinematography and, possibly above all, the chance of meeting socially some 400 or 500 other keen movie-makers, representing the top workers from many countries.

Last year, Wally Meano of Germiston, who represented South Africa said it was the most interesting and fascinating cine experience he has ever had. M.P.D. would very much like to be represented again, although, regretfully, we cannot afford to pay a delegate's travelling or hotel expenses. If anyone who is to be in Europe at that time would like to attend as our delegate, will he please communicate with Derrick Beadle, c/o M.P.D., Box 11309, Johannesburg, as soon as possible. He is assured of a fascinating week's enjoyment.

GROUP FILM CONTEST

It's probably too late now to start making your Group's entry for the Florida Inter-club contest, but if it is nearly 'in the can,' you still have time to finish it and send it in for this competition which we already know is going to attract a large entry. For details and entry form, please write to M.P.D., address as above.

PRESIDENTIAL NOTES

DURING the past few months we have had several requests from member clubs, who intend to hold National Photographic Salons or Exhibitions for P.S.S.A. Salon rules and for a list of names of approved judges from which a panel could be elected.

In reply we would like to say that P.S.S.A. has no official Salon rules, as these are more or less internationally standardised and can be found on any entry form of a major International Photographic Salon. What we do intend formulating, however, is a set of conditions governing P.S.S.A. approval for intended Salons—an entirely different matter. These conditions will imply such items as conforming with the National Salon Calendar (which is in the process of being drawn up), the previous history of such salons with regard to quality and quantity, the manner in which the Salon is being organised, advertised, etc., etc. P.S.S.A. approval must officialy be applied for.

As for lists of approved judges—"approval" pre-supposes our right to "disapprove" something which at times can make a great many enemies for our organisation. We, therefore, are not putting forward such lists, and our advice to member clubs is to study the names on previous International Salons held in the Republic as a guide. We may point out that judges need not necessarily be members of P.S.S.A. neither need all of them be photographers. Clubs may exercise their democratic

right to include a recognised artist or architect, etc., on their panels of they wish to do so. The important thing is simply—do you have sufficient confidence in a person's ability to judge photography honestly and without bias?

J. K. du TOIT.

CONGRESS—OCTOBER 16th to 19th, 1964— KRUGER PARK

Although details were only released in the May issue, an encouraging number of applications have already been received. It is obvious that this will be a unique Congress with ample opportunity for obtaining further pictures of the most photographed place in the Republic. When, in addition to making your own pictures, you can do this in company with probably a hundred fellow enthusiasts, the question is: "Can you afford to miss Congress this year?"

For details write: Russell Stephen, Box 9502, Johannesburg.

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we learn that one of the Society's Foundation Members, Mr. Charles Loney, of 533 Frere Road, Durban, passed away on March 31st, at the age of 72 years.

The late Mr. Loney took a keen interest in photography and was present at the inaugural meeting of P.S.S.A. in the City Hall, Durban, in July 1954. He was a member of the Durban Camera Club for over 30 years and during the years 1933-1936 was first its Treasurer and then President, and for some 25 years was a member of the committee of the club. To his widow we extend our sincere condolences.

CHANGE OF VENUE

The Krugersdorp Camera Club advise that their monthly meeting will be held on every third TUESDAY in the Lecture Room of the Town Hall, Krugersdorp. Anyone wishing to contact K.C.C., please phone Mr. Ken Sanders, 660-3689 or Mr. Ben Bredenkamp, 660-2752.

THE PIETERMARITZBURG PHOTOGRAPHIC AND CINE SOCIETY

The cine section of the above society recently completed the shooting of a film on a Motor Car Rally, but only this time with a difference.

Scriptwriter Des. Lloyd wrote the script, which concerns the antics of two aspirant competitors in a Motor Car Rally. In the film they do everything but the right thing.

Miles Buchan was the cameraman, himself a motor club enthusiast, and the direction was carried out by Peter de Bruin.

Not only was the photographic club involved in this venture, but the motor rally club provided the actors and the cars. The local Tape Recording Club is to assist with the sound effects, etc. The film was kindly donated.

The picture shows the aspirant competitors being lined up in the camera sights, and listening to instructions from the Director, whilst the scriptwriter (back to camera) looks on.



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