



# North Central Camera Club Council

# News Bulletin

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# January 2020

## *“Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends”*

The N4C Bulletin is the official publication of the North Central Camera Club Council, which serves camera clubs in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Published Monthly. Annual subscription rate is \$10 for 10 issues. N4C is affiliated with the Photographic Society of America.

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## President’s Message:

In browsing almost any collection of photographs on the internet, one is struck by the variation in style. For instance, some photographers place great value on displaying their images as they appear “out of camera” and eschew post-processing altogether; others apply presets and effects or blend multiple images in post-processing as standard operating procedure.

Given the range of N4C competitions, from documentary (Journalism) to whimsically artful (Altered Reality), with a variety of options in between, we have the freedom to participate in the whole range of possibilities that modern photography presents. But is having a recognizable style to your photos equivalent to picking only one competition category to participate in?

I think not. At least some aspects of “style” transcend individual preferences on the literal-to-artful dimension.



Here’s an idea to try at a club meeting sometime. Ask everyone to share a few pictures they have not shared with the club before and project the images without giving away the name of the maker. Then see if the club members can correctly guess which of their members made the photo. We did this at our club somewhat by accident a few years ago. I was surprised at how good we all were at recognizing our fellow members’ styles! Even without knowing it, we each had developed a personal photographic style recognizable to our friends. And I believe that was true even though some of the images were “nature” in character and others were “pictorial” in character, for instance.

Mark Gromko

President N4C

## SAVE THE DATE!

**Saturday, March 21st, 2020**, will be the date for the Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs' 34th Annual **Spring Break**, at a brand new location: Spring Lake Park High School, in Spring Lake Park, Minnesota.

It will be very convenient for travel from Iowa and Minnesota, since I-35 goes practically all the way there.

Details on programs and speakers will follow. Save the date, and stay tuned!



## N4C SPRING MINI-CONVENTION 2020

### April 24, 25 & 26 2020



2019 Mini Spring Group Pic at Wesley Woods

The spring convention will be held at Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat Center. The facility is located a few miles south of Indianola, Iowa. We had great response to this location last year. The meeting room & eating area are next to each other on the main level. The meeting room has a large projection screen, a mounted projector and a new sound system. The sleeping facilities remain the same. Instead of large open rooms we have had in the past this facility has dorm rooms that sleep 2-4 people. Most of these

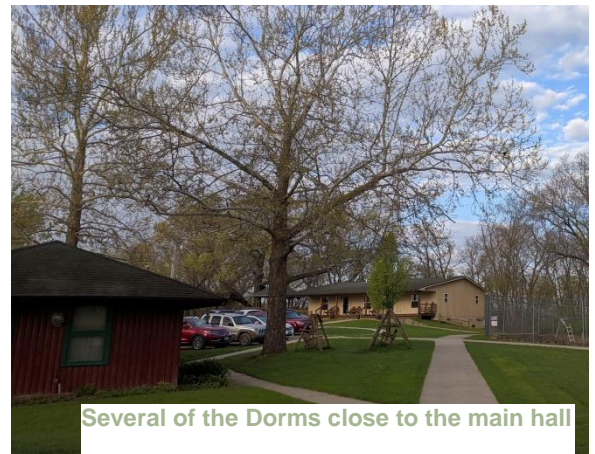
rooms are below the meeting hall, with the others a short walking distance away. The facility requires a minimum of two people per room or we will be charged more. If you have someone you wish to room with please write that on your application. If not, you will be assigned a roommate. There are a few rooms for couples. You still need to bring your own bedding, towels, etc.

The facility allows you to bring food to the dorms. Each dorm has a kitchen & meeting room for visiting or card playing after the meetings. **NO ALCOHOL** inside or out. They also have a campground with electric hookups.

The facility is 5 miles south of Indianola off Hwy 92. **PLEASE NOTE:** from Indianola please **DO NOT USE** your GPS to the facility. It might take you to an entrance that is no longer used. Please use these directions: Just west of Indianola on Hwy 92 turn south on Hwy 63. There is a big church on the north side where you turn south. When the pavement ends you turn left into Wesley Woods.

There are several motels in Indianola as it is a college town. If you have questions about the facility please email us. The registration forms will be on the web site soon.

Hope you can join us. Randy Moyer - [rmoyer8772@aol.com](mailto:rmoyer8772@aol.com)



Several of the Dorms close to the main hall

**April 24, 25 & 26 2020**

**N4C SPRING MINI-CONVENTION**

**REGISTRATION**

Wesley Woods Camp & Retreat Center <http://www.wesleywoodsiaowa.org/retreat/Indianola, Iowa>

**Complete the registration form and send it along with your check NOW.**

**DEADLINE DATE for arrival of your registration is Friday April 10.**

**NO registration will be accepted after the deadline date of April 10**

**PLEASE – This means that you have to mail your registration BEFORE April 06.  
NO REFUNDS AFTER April 20.**

A confirmation email will be sent out to you upon the receipt of your money and registration.

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: N4C SPRING MINI-CONVENTION**

Return Registration & check to: Randy Moyer. Questions?

1021 Dover Street phone: 319-354-4265 Iowa City, IA 52240 email: [rmoyer8772@aol.com](mailto:rmoyer8772@aol.com)

Please PRINT

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Eve. Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

City-State-Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Member of \_\_\_\_\_ Camera Club in N4C

Room mate preference \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS YEAR:** Note the location - NO bed linens or towels provided. Where else can you enjoy photo programs, meet friends, eat 5 meals all for \$105 and then room two nights for an additional \$40? Rates are the same as 2019.

Number of people Total cost

Package #1: Day Use @ \$105 per person. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Includes: Meals & day use of meeting room

Not use of dorms

Package #2: Dorm Room use @ \$145 per person \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Includes: Meals & lodging in dorms. Must have 2-3

People per room.

Bring own BEDDING, TOWELS, SOAP, ETC.

Grand Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_





## RULES FOR PHOTO ESSAY ANNUAL COMPETITION

1. A photo essay is a series of projectable images accompanied by music and/or a narrative which tell an integrated story presented in a pleasing and understandable manner.
2. The deadline for receipt of entries by the contest chair is March 31st, with judging conducted in April. Members may submit one entry per year, with a maximum number of member entries per club of 8 as in other digital contests (see #10 for point accrual.) In addition, a club may also submit one club entry in which one or more members may work collaboratively on an essay. Customarily, the club president or other club officer submits a club entry. Club entries are not awarded points toward the Club of the Year Award.
3. The minimum number of images shall be twenty (20). There is not a limit on the maximum number of images, but the program time shall not exceed six (6) minutes. Hint: the majority of winning entries in the past few years have been between 4-5 minutes. Only still images (not Video Clips) can be used to compose the Photo Essay. The “Ken Burns” effect is permitted on individual images. The images must be the work of the entrant(s).
4. The photo essay contest incorporates a sound track along with imagery that can consist of music, narration or any combination of the two. The source of sound files can be (a) self-recorded sound made at the same approximate time as images were made, (b) narration/music recorded specifically for the essay either by the author (or local individuals who collaborate with the author of the essay), (c) royalty pre-paid music (source must be provided), or (d) pre-recorded music that is now royalty free (eg. royalty expired) or which has permission from copyright owner\*. Note that the photo-essay should identify the source of the sound/music/narration. Note that the maker or club entering the contest should not be identified in the electronic file of the essay. Author identification should be in the form accompanying the essay or via e-mail to the contest chair for photo essays.
5. Standard N4C naming will be used with the photo essay contest—with the file name used for the .mp4 entry submitted via [Dropbox to d.tomes@icloud.com](mailto:d.tomes@icloud.com) . Normally a link to the author’s *dropbox* account sent to this e-mail address is the easiest way to retrieve the essay. A USB memory stick may be used to send an entry by mail to the contest chair (Please inform the contest chair!) Although the file name is sufficient for entering the contest, e-mail communication with the maker’s name, e-mail address, and telephone number is helpful if technical assistance is desired. The photo essay chair will confirm receipt of the photo essay via e-mail.
6. Entries can be created in any software, but the entry must be entered as a “universal” file format such as .mp4 or .mov, playable on all computers. The entrant(s) may have non-professional, unpaid assistance in converting the entry to the standard format of .mp4 or .mov as needed. The .mp4 file format is preferred. The entrant’s photo-essay should be sent to the Contest Chair in the specified file type via Dropbox (see above). The Photo-Essay Chair will assemble all entries for judging (see # 9), for showing at Spring Mini-Convention, and at the Fall Convention.
7. The judging club will provide three judges (consistent with other N4C contests) for this contest. Normally the judging club will not be able to submit entries to the contest the year they are judging. Judges who are not members of any affiliated club in N4C may be used provided that they have sufficient experience in judging photography contests similar to those in N4C and are willing to complete the necessary forms and provide feedback to contest entrants.
8. All the following must be considered by the judges: (a.) Quality of the photography, (b.) Soundtrack Quality (music and narrative if included) and (c) Impact, interest, and integration of sound and images.

9. The club that hosts the essay competition is encouraged to conduct the judging at a time and place where interested individuals may attend. The judges must comment on the entries for the benefit of the audience. It is suggested that the judges' comments be made available to those entrants and the public who were unable to attend the judging. The photo essay chair will provide a computer, projector and other supplies to present the essays for judging and record the results of the essay judging for the host club.

10. By tradition, all entries are shown at the Spring mini-convention meeting in April/May. The winners will be announced at Spring Mini-Convention after essays are shown. The first, second, third place and HM winners will be presented at the Fall convention during one of the banquets.

11. Clubs will accrue points toward the Club of the Year Award as follows: First – 8 points, Second – 6 points, Third – 4 points, Honorable Mention – 2 points

Revision 5/1/2019

\*additional information royalty free music:

· These slide show software programs have royalty free music that can be used: Filmora, Photostory Deluxe, Movavi Slideshow Maker, ProShow Gold, CyberLink MediaShow, iMovie (Mac), FotoMagico (Mac) · Web sites for 'free' slideshow makers: <https://whatphotographygear.com/photo-editor/best-slideshow-makers.html> · Potential royalty free loops—not tested extensively: <https://www.looperman.com/loops> · <http://carlcheo.com/make-free-photo-slideshow-online-with-music>



## RULES FOR VIDEO ESSAY CONTEST

For more information contact Carl Hardy - [torchenterprises@cableone.net](mailto:torchenterprises@cableone.net)

A video essay is a series of projectable video clips accompanied by music and/or a narrative which tell an integrated story presented in a pleasing and understandable manner.

2. The deadline for receipt of entries by the contest chair is March 31st with judging conducted in April. Members may submit one entry per year with a maximum number of member entries per club of 8 as in other digital contests (see #10 for point accrual.) In addition, a club may also submit one club entry in which one or members may work collaboratively on an essay. Customarily, the club president or other club officer submits a club entry. Club entries are not awarded points toward the Club of the Year Award.

3. The minimum frame rate shall be four (4) frames per second (fps), with no maximum fps. The program time shall not exceed six (6) minutes. Hint: the majority of winning slide essay entries in the past few years have been between 4-5 minutes. Still images can be used for time lapse or stop-action, but must meet the 4 fps rule. Any and all CG Effects can be used. The video clips must be the work of the entrant(s), with no commercial clips allowed. The video essay should contain the source of the sound track, but must not identify the maker or club entering the contest.

4. Standard N4C naming will be used with the video essay contest—with the file name used for the .mp4 entry submitted. A USB memory stick may be used to send an entry by mail to the contest chair [Carl Hardy - torchenterprises@cableone.net](mailto:Carl Hardy - torchenterprises@cableone.net) Must include file name, entrant's name for entering the contest, e-mail

communication with the maker's name, e-mail address, and telephone number, if technical assistance is desired. The video essay chair will confirm receipt of the video essay via e-mail.

5. Entries can be created using any software, but the entry must be entered as a "universal" file format such as .mp4 or .mov, playable on all computers, with a format size of 4K or less. The entrant(s) may have non-professional, unpaid assistance in converting the entry to the standard format of .mp4 or .mov as needed. The .mp4 file format is preferred. The entrant's video essay should be sent to the [Contest Chair Carl Hardy-torchenterprises@cablone.net](mailto:Contest Chair Carl Hardy-torchenterprises@cablone.net) The Video Essay Chair will assemble all entries for judging (see # 9), for showing at Spring Mini-Convention, and at the Fall Convention.

6. The judging club will provide three judges (consistent with other N4C contests) for this contest. Normally the judging club will not be able to submit entries to the contest the year they are judging. Judges who are not members of any affiliated club in N4C may be used provided that they have sufficient experience in judging videography contests similar to those in N4C and are willing to complete the necessary forms and provide feedback to contest entrants.

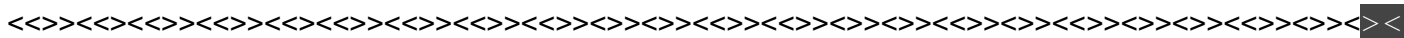
7. All the following must be considered by the judges: (a.) Quality of the videography, (b.) Soundtrack Quality (music and narrative if included) and (c) Impact, interest, and integration of sound and images.

8. The club that hosts the essay contest is encouraged to conduct the judging at a time and place where interested individuals may attend. The judges must comment on the entries for the benefit of the audience. It is suggested that the judges' comments be made available to those entrants and the public who were unable to attend the judging. The video essay chair will provide a computer, projector and other supplies to present the essays for judging and record the results of the essay judging for the host club.

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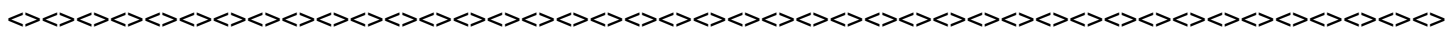
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Carl Hardy, Sioux City, is the chair of the Video Competition. Carl Hardy- [torchenterprises@cablone.net](mailto:torchenterprises@cablone.net)



## Rules for Panorama Print Annual Contest – Chair Ed Seims

1. A Panorama print is considered to be a photographic print with an aspect ratio greater than 2:1 with no square inch limitation.
2. Open contest, any subject, mode or process, color or Black & White, one entry per member.
3. Cannot be mailed, must bring to the Spring Mini-Convention for judging.
4. Mounted on a sturdy mount.



## Rules for Camera Club Communication Annual Competition

1. N4C will run two separate Communication Contests. One for Bulletins and Newsletters, and one for Web Sites. This annual competition will only be conducted in August.
2. The contests will be run by Carl Hardy, newly appointed Club Communications Contest Chair. Doug Conrad has been appointed as a Club Communications Contest Vice Chair.
3. Carl Hardy will manage the promotion, advertising, contest rules and collection of the entries. Awards will be presented to the First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention positions. The winners will be announced at the N4C Annual Convention.



