



North Central Camera Club Council

December 2021 News Bulletin

Presidents Doug Conrad Notes:

Merry Christmas Everyone,

It's hard to believe it's that time of year already. As I look back it's no wonder this year has been a whirlwind. It seems like my wife and I have been gone more than we've been home. Trips to Mexico, Jamaica, Bonners Ferry Utah, Emigrant Montana, Yellowstone, Beaver Lake in Arkansas (twice), Boundary Waters in Northern Minnesota, Arizona (twice), and the Black Hills of South Dakota just to name a few.

As photographers, you know that makes for countless photographs to weed through. So what happens to all those photos? Some will hopefully be worthy to enter in our local club's photo competitions as well as N4C competitions. Some may be printed for hanging on a wall or end up in photo books, calendars or Christmas cards. Most importantly, it's all about sharing those memories with family and one of the best ways I've found is through video slide shows.

This is the time of year where I gather my most memorable photos of the year, as well as some photos from family members, and share them in a video slide show. This has been our family Christmas tradition for the last twelve years now and has been a hit at every Christmas.



I use to burn each video onto printable DVD's which enabled me to print a label directly onto the DVD, but that's old school these days and much more work. Today, each video is rendered in hi definition and copied to thumb drives with the title engraved on the outside. Each family member receives one as a keepsake. The title is the same each year except for the year. This year's title will be A Glance at 2021.

I use a program called Proshow Producer that is no longer available. It has gone the way of Adobe, and is completely subscription based. It's now called Photopia, but there are numerous other options out there as well as some that are free.

If you're looking for ideas this Christmas and you have never done this before I would suggest you give it a try. It's guaranteed to bring joy, laughter, and maybe a tear or two to your Christmas gathering.



Joy to all this Christmas.

Doug Conrad



The Trees: **Dubuque Camera Club Annual Exhibition**

Trees give peace to the souls of men.
Nora Waln

Trees symbolize strength, endurance, and the cycle of life, and they can provide a space for the contemplation and solace. As part of the experience of *Vietnam: The Real War*, the Dubuque Camera Club presents this selection of images that explore

the healing power of trees. These twenty-six images of nature's sacred residents offer a welcome moment of mental respite.

In 2012, the photographer Mark Hirsch from Platteville, Wisconsin, committed to photographing the same tree every day for a year, a process that proved to be transformative and healing in his book, *That Tree*. Eight years later through the prolonged challenges of the pandemic, many people turned to nature for its therapeutic benefits. During the pandemic shutdowns an extended commitment to a project such as Hirsch's became a possibility and a welcome distraction for many.

Trees provide creative inspiration for photographers at all skill levels. Besides being abundantly accessible, trees offer unlimited opportunities for photographers to capture their ever-changing beauty through any season or time of day. This select group of arboreal images by Dubuque Camera Club members offers a remind of the beauty in our world.

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Green State Credit Union

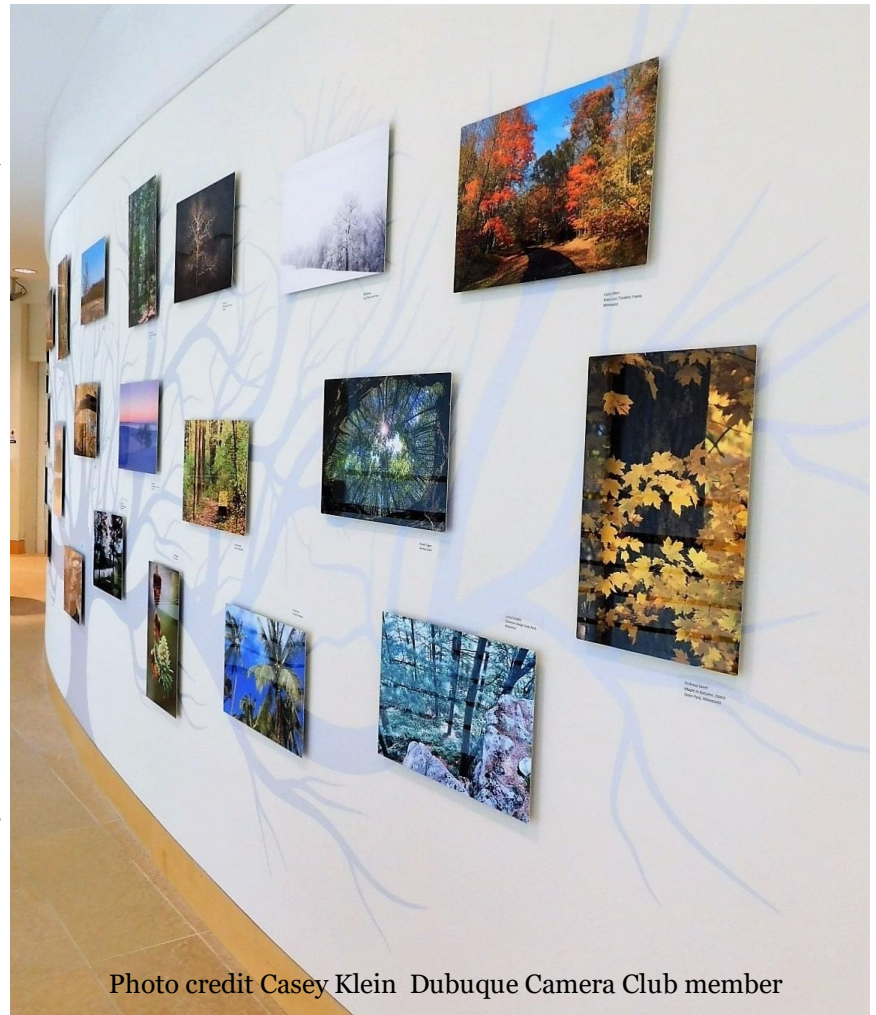


Photo credit Casey Klein Dubuque Camera Club member

N4C Club Dues Request

Unpaid clubs:

Central Iowa
Duluth-Superior
Ft. Dodge
Lidgerwood
N Metro
Photoshooters
RV Digital
Shutterbug Burlington
Western WI



NORTH CENTRAL CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL

September 1, 2021_____

Dear Member Club: According to the N4C bylaws in the Handbook and Directory, all club membership dues are NOW DUE. Dues are figured at the rate of \$1.00 per club member, provided that the minimum dues of any Club shall be \$10.00; the maximum dues of any club shall be \$60.00. The number of members for calculating dues will be based on the club membership as of the previous May. New clubs will calculate their current membership. Dues shall run from one calendar year, renewal date being the first of September each year.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP AS OF LAST MAY: _____

MEMBERS X \$1.00 = TOTAL \$ _____

CLUB NAME: _____ Check #: _____

Person sending payment: _____

Address: _____ zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Please remit this amount to the
N4C Treasurer,
Lynda Richards,
4236 228th Ave., Hartford, IA 50118-8019.



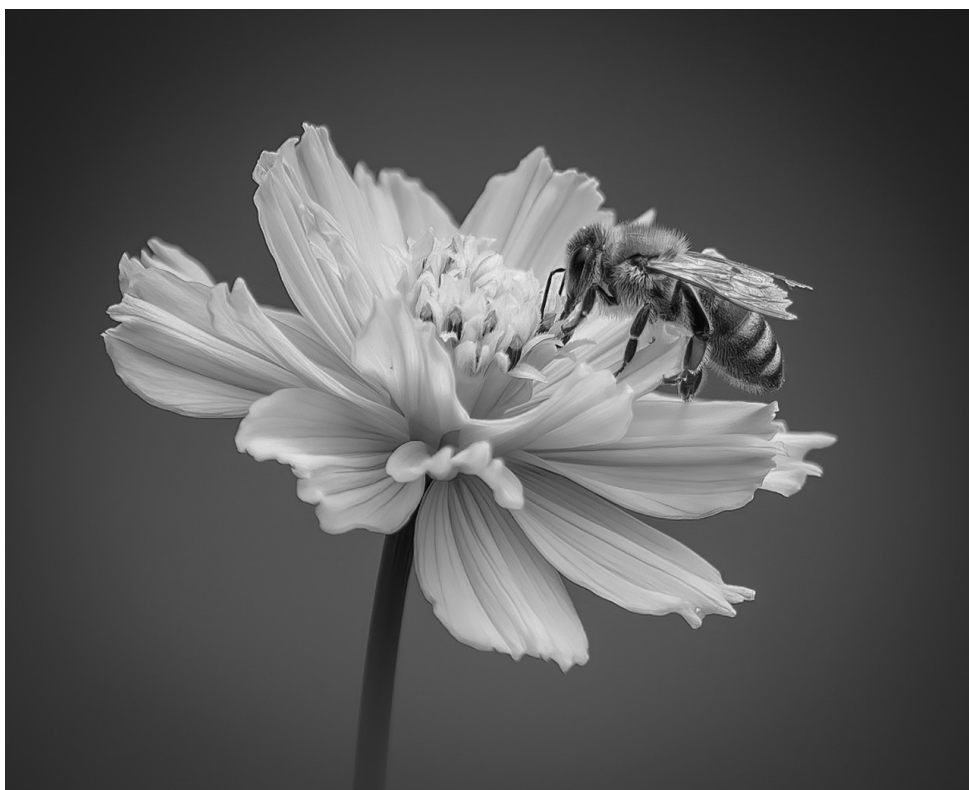
N4C Winning Digital Entries from November 2021 Contests

Digital

Altered Reality

Exit the Time Machine -

Sondra Barry, Wichita Area



Digital

Black & White

Honey Bee -

Peg Gilbert,

Sioux City Camera Club

N4C Winning Digital Entries from November Contests

Digital

Journalism

Heritage Flight -
David Perez,
Minnesota Valley



Digital Nature

A Bit of Protein -
Deb Shoning,
Des Moines Camera Club

N4C Winning Digital Entries from November Contests



Digital Pictorial

Sunrise Grand Canyon-AZ -

Johnny Brian,

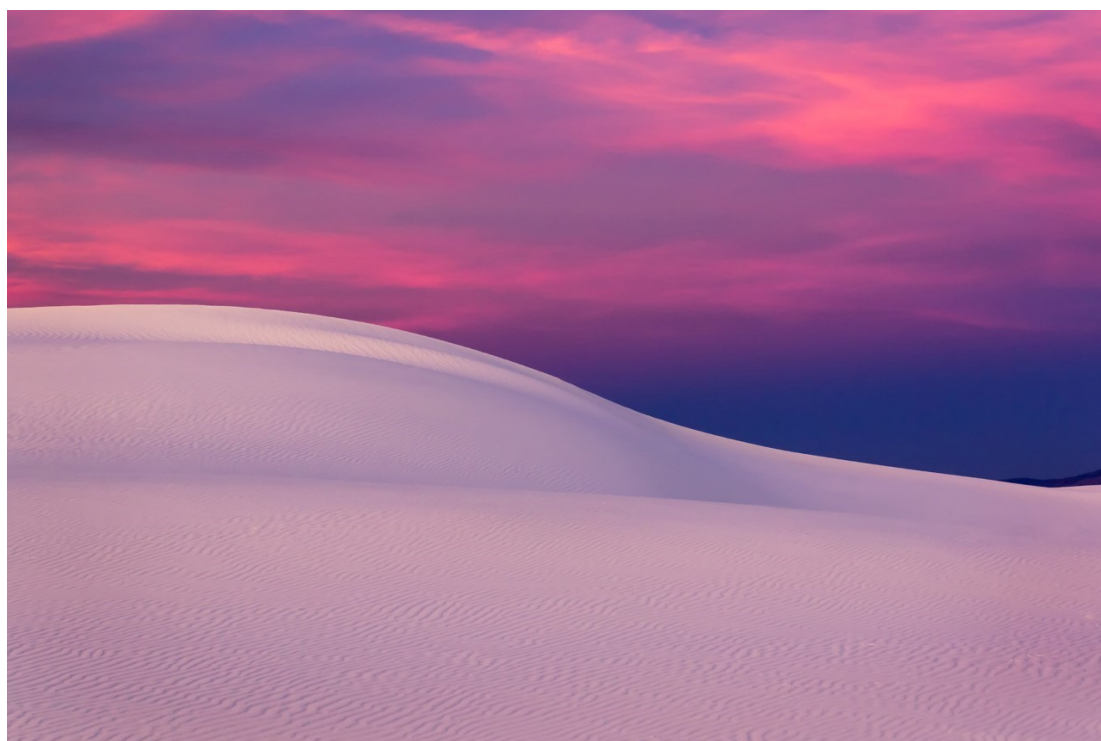
Iowa City

Digital Travel

Essence of
WhiteSands,NM -

Martha Farwell,

Great River





Definition of Nature has been changed. **Takes effect immediately**

At the N4C Board meeting held Thursday September 23, 2021, the rules for Nature competition were amended. **This amendment has taken effect immediately.**

The change in the rule is the removal of the prohibition of cultivated plants in paragraph 6.

Nature (as amended September 23, 2012)

Nature Photography is the recording of our natural world by some photographic means. Included are all branches of nature except Archeology and Anthropology.

- 1. No photograph is worth distress or injury to any wild creature.
- 2. Nature photographs may be either black & white or color.
- 3. The hand of man shall not be present in any nature entry except where wild animals have adapted to the built environment (e.g., fence posts and other man-made objects freely adapted for use by wild creatures).
- 4. Banding or tagging on nature subjects is acceptable. Photographs at bird feeders are not acceptable if any part of a man-made feeder is shown in the photograph.
- 5. Photographs taken in zoos, animal farms, or game farms are acceptable if the hand of man is not visible.
- 6. Domestic animals, and pets are not acceptable.
- 7. Adjustments must look natural. The use of HDR, exposure blending, focus stacking, stitching, and related techniques that combine more than one image is acceptable, provided the resulting image is natural in appearance.

PRINT COMPETITIONS

New Print Contest Criteria

At its spring meeting the N4C Board approved changes to the rules for print competitions, which will go into effect with the August/September print contests later this year. The cost for mailing prints has increased noticeably the last few years; that increased cost has created a disincentive for clubs to participate in print competitions. The rule changes are all designed to increase participation in print competitions by making participation less costly.

The rule changes will be reflected in the Handbook, as available on the N4C web site, <http://n4c.us/>

1. **Mats and backing will no longer be allowed.** *All prints must be unmounted.* **NEW**
2. **Maximum print** size will be constrained by the size of the mailer. Prints must fit, unfolded, in either a 15-1/8 x 11-5/8 inch mailer OR a 14 x 12 x 3 inch Priority Box. Both the Priority envelope and the Priority Box are available for free at USPS.

3. CONTEST COMBINED

- Nature prints and B&W prints are currently judged by the same club, meaning that only one mailing is needed for these two contests.
- Travel and Journalism prints are currently judged by the same club.
- **Pictorial and Altered Reality prints** will be judged by the same club. **NEW**

Please send any club events & pictures to Deb, edit@n4c.us.
Would like to include any events or wards from any of the clubs. Helps to give other clubs ideas.

2022 Fall Convention in Duluth!

September 22-25, 2022

N4C November (2021-11) Contest Results

Altered Reality Prints

1st Descending Stairs - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
2nd Heavy Load - Gary Gilbert, Sioux City
3rd Dancing Pappus - Doug Conrad, Sioux City
HM Flowers At A Grotto - Carl Hardy, Sioux City
HM Whisky Splash - Stephonie Schmitz, Dubuque
15 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Duluth Superior Chair: Diane Fonger.
Judges: Joe Kubala, Jim Walters, Amber Nichols Comments:

B & W Pictorial Prints

1st Cottonwood and Corn - Johnny Brian, Iowa City
2nd Iris in Black - Dwight Tomes, Des Moines
3rd Dandelion Dew - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
HM Eyes Are On You - Doug Conrad, Sioux City
HM Mud caked Rhino - Anne S Olson, Great River
23 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs Chair: Deb Bates.
Judges: Linda Buxton, Kathy Rohrig, Sybil Schwochow Comments: Good mixture of images

Digital Altered Reality

1st Exit the Time Machine - Sondra Barry, Wichita Area
2nd A Teaching Moment - Diana Borash, Iowa City
3rd Dazzling Dahlia - Martha Farwell, Great River
HM Reflections and Refractions - Ron Nicolls, Sioux City
HM 1912 Stanley Steamer - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
HM Weisman Art Museum - Ken Wolter, Western Wisconsin
HM On Mobile Bay - John Calvin, Fargo-Moorhead
HM Intentional Camera Movement 15 Yard Penalty - Mick Richards, Western Wisconsin
73 entries from 17 clubs. Judging Club: Minnesota Valley Photography Club. Chair: Daniel Vande Vusse . Judges:
Bob Tourdot , Don Tredinnick , Rick Graves . Comments: Very nice variety of AR methods used.

Digital B&W

1st Honey Bee - Peg Gilbert, Sioux City
2nd Desert Trek Headquarters - Martha Farwell, Great River
3rd The Web - Diane Herman, Western Wisconsin
HM Hey Sexy - Kim Walter, Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs
HM Loom at Woolen Mill - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
HM Old Morman Barn - Tom Birrenbach, Saint Paul
HM Lukas Nelson Guitar Solo - Steve Pacholl, North Metro
HM Lincoln and Grant Reenactors - Tom Arnhold, Topeka
HM Henry Doorly Gorilla - Kelly Asmussen, Lincoln
HM Rooted in Rock Stretching to the Sunrise - Mike Barker, Omaha
107 entries from 20 clubs. Judging Club: Wichita Area Camera Club. Chair: Dwight Corrin. Judges: Jim Boots,
Jerry Burnell, Patricia Konyha.

Digital Journalism

1st Heritage Flight - David Perez, Minnesota Valley
2nd Aeroshell Aerobatic Team Stuart FL 2021 Air Show - Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead

N4C November (2021-11) Contest Results

3rd Let Me Tell You A Story - Marty DeWitt, Sioux Falls
HM USAF Prop Planes Smoking - Pat Boudreau, North Metro
HM Out of the Chute Hot and Heavy - Mike Barker, Omaha
HM Miesville out - Karen Leonard, Saint Paul
HM Peggy Accepts the Flag - Dwight Tomes, Des Moines
HM On Edge - Paul Grillo, Des Moines

72 entries from 18 clubs. Judging Club: Topeka Camera Club. Chair: Greg Hogleund.

Judges: Bob Wright, Don Jackson, Sonja Hogleund. Comments: Used the 9 point judging for the first time. Ended up with lots of ties on scores. There were many good photos.

Digital Nature

1st A Bit of Protein - Deb Shoning, Des Moines
2nd Strength in Family - Anna Frissell, Fargo-Moorhead
3rd Hummingbird on Scarlet Runner Beans - Kenneth Kiss, Dubuque
HM Popping Out All Over - Candy Erk Manthey, Black Hills
HM Dragonflyte.jpeg - Deb Zimmerman, Black Hills
HM Elephants - Peter Freymark, Des Moines
HM Violet-Tailed-Sylph - Sheldon Farwell, Great River
HM Seagull - Steve Walling, Omaha
HM House Finch - Al Kiecker, Minnesota Valley

85 entries from 16 clubs. Judging Club: Western Wisconsin Photo Club. Chair: Terry Butler.

Judges: Marianne Diericks, Don Specht, Diane Herman.

Digital Pictorial

1st Sunrise Grand Canyon-AZ - Johnny Brian, Iowa City
2nd Pre-dawn Paddle - Will Hoyer, Dubuque
3rd Pine Chapel - Kevin McTague, Dubuque
HM Moonlit Milky Way Trail - Greg Hogleund, Topeka
HM Swimming Duck - Mark O'Loughlen, Sioux Falls
HM Posing In Polka Dots - Kathy Bury, Saint Paul
HM Indigo Sun - Paul Grillo, Des Moines
HM Leavenworth's Eryngo - Sonja Hogleund, Topeka
HM Spoonbill Family_ - Marianne Diericks, Western Wisconsin
HM Asiatic White Lily - Ken Epstein, Saint Paul
HM 3_Wheeling the Dunes - Doug Conrad, Sioux City
HM Wildflowers at Black Bear Pass - Mark Gromko, Iowa City

115 entries from 20 clubs. Judging Club: Omaha Camera Club. Chair: Nikki McDonald.

Judges: Mike Barker, Thomas Hall, Donna Turner. Comments: Nice variety and, on the whole, quality of entries. Commented on all images, often with comments from more than one judge. Only one tie to break: 3-way tie for 1st, 2nd, 3rd. Used Method 2 scoring.

Digital Travel

1st Essence of White Sands,NM - Martha Farwell, Great River
2nd Serengeti Cheetah Brothers (Tanzania) - Diane Herman, Western Wisconsin
3rd Rhodies and Redwoods in a Foggy Jediah Smith State Park , CA.- Deb Zimmerman, Black Hills
HM Stillwater, Minnesota Lift Bridge at Dusk - Ken Wolter, Western Wisconsin
HM Guggenheim Museum - Bilbao, Spain - Keith Anderson, Sioux Falls
HM Great Fountain Geyser, Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, USA - Kim Walter,
Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs

HM View from Denali Highway, Alaska - Roberta Mullin, Saint Paul
HM Dancing Waters on Seattle Harbor - Marty DeWitt, Sioux Falls
HM Totem Pole, UT - Wayne Wellan, Saint Paul

N4C November (2021-11) Contest Results

HM The Sinks Waterfall TN - David Perez, Minnesota Valley

HM Marby Mill at Dusk - Virginia - Allen Kurth, Omaha

95 entries from 19 clubs. Judging Club: Iowa City Camera Club. Chair: Randy Moyer. Judges: Mark Gromkp, Celine Hartwig, Mary Dreckman. Comments: There were a lot of great entries and it was a challenge to break ties and determine HM winners.

Journalism Prints

1st Rally Road Trip - Michael Walsh, Sioux City

2nd Prepared for the Holiday - Dwight Tomes, Des Moines

3rd Agony of Victory - James Durrant, Dubuque

HM Yount Patriot - Ty Smith, Mitchell

17 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Minot Camera Club. Chair: Tim Zeltinger

Judges: Eric Linser, Carol Crowdus, Richard Debertian. Comments: Would be nice to see all prints in some sort of sleeve to protect them. The rule for journalism is 8x10.Pj is a tough category and really puts your skills to work.

Nature Prints

1st Fall Leaves - Bob Rude, Iowa City

2nd Where's Spring - Deb Shoning, Des Moines

3rd The Red Mountains - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior

HM On The Rocks - Karen Durrant, Dubuque

19 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs. Chair: Deb Bates.

Judges: Linda Buxton, Kathy Rohrig, Sybil Schwochow. Comments: Nice Variety

Pictorial Prints (Color)

1st One Vase Three Mirrors - Mark Gromko, Iowa City

2nd Alexis - Randy Moyer, Iowa City

3rd Attracted to Peanuts - Doug Conrad, Sioux City

HM Steel Bridge Sunset - Mitch Keller, Sioux City

HM Harvest From Above - Lucas Harbeck, Sioux City

HM Matthiessen Lake Waterfall - Ryno W Olson, Great River

27 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Duluth Superior CC. Chair: Diane Fonger

Judges: Joe Kabuala, Jim Walters, Amber Nichols. Comments:

Travel Prints

1st St John's Bay OR - Mitch Keller, Sioux City

2nd Down town Yuma AZ - Doug Conrad, Sioux City

3rd Where the tall trees grow Redwood Forest C - Deb Shoning, Des Moines

HM Dogwood Canyon, Lampe, MO - Debbie Bates, Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs

17 entries from 7 clubs. Judging Club: Minot Camera Club Chair: Tim Zeltinger

Judges: Eric Linser, Carol Crowdus, Richard Debertain. Comments: Nice to have prints individual sleeved

The N4C board was discussing how to increase or keep existing club members. Here are a few things we are doing in the Dubuque, Iowa Camera Club:

The Dubuque Camera Club has been operating on a Hybrid model of club meetings. In order to keep our current members and increase with new members we have tried to make it easy for those who want to attend. The hybrid model is offering in person meetings and a zoom (or online equivalent) at the same time. If someone cannot travel easy or just plum forgot about the meeting until last minute, it allows them to login and join us.

Emails are sent out with the agenda for each meeting a day or two ahead of time with any notes of what we will be doing at the meeting or what members should be doing. We utilize Mailchimp and have a free account. This is a great way to stay in touch with those members who do not make it to meetings. We put our minutes on our website for members to refer to also.

We have a private group Facebook page. On this page we share a few photos. Much of what is posted are photography opportunities and celebrating what club members are doing. Some of our members get spotlighted by any exhibitions that they are in, or contests that they have won in the N4C and outside of here too. It is a place for members to be engaged and ask questions.

Also, we do a couple of trade show like events also to let the public know that we are out there while showcasing our members work. One of the most successful is the Bald Eagle event held in January. The cost of the event goes to the local Audubon Society so that is a win too. We try to create photo opportunities by gathering in several places around the area a few times a year too. We simply took car caravan in the spring around the countryside following one photographer that showed us a few of his favorite places.

Does your club send out regular emails? Have regular in-person or Zoom meetings? Do you have events or get togethers outside of regular meeting to engage members? Let us act together and reach out to our members and our friends. Hope this might give you a new idea for recruitment and retention of members.

Remember the saying" Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends!"

Jennifer Tigges, Dubuque Camera Club



Printed and Digital Entries are due to be received judging Clubs by the 15th of each month.

Contest results should be received by contest chair by 25th of the month



North Central Camera Club Council

**“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.

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