



The North Central Camera Club Council

News Bulletin

"Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends"

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October, 2009

The Welcoming Camera Club

At some time during their existence every camera club ponders this question: How long will our club last? Another similar but not identical question might be posed how are our membership numbers compared to last year. Camera clubs, like individuals, come with different personalities and opinions. That said, most clubs are oriented toward at least moderate growth and a view toward continuing well into the future.

Over concern about growth and achieving growth usually go in opposite directions. For our camera club (Des Moines Camera Club), I recall a time when Ray Andrews resuscitated the club when it was at a low point in members and participation. He never spent time at club meetings talking about what number of members was desirable, but he did spend a lot of time talking about photography and actively supporting club activities. Ray didn't try to do everything, but he did recruit a number of like minded individuals and asked them to 'step up'. And it worked. If I could open Ray's play book it might say that his list to bring a club back to life consists of (1) focus on the photography, (2) actively and frequently organize opportunities for photography, (3) participate in photography contests, and (4) share your best techniques and locations with everyone who is interested, especially new photographers.

Focus on the photography. I don't know what kind of camera Ray had and can't remember that he advocated one over another. I did know that he was a master at composition and learned many valuable lessons from his discussions about composition and the elements of fine art photography. I also knew that he was passionate about how to 'work' a photograph in the dark room until it said "perfection". He knew about other types of photography, but black and white printing was his favorite.

Opportunities for photography. Ray knew many outstanding locations for photography that were accessible. Especially when our club hosted others (at least three N4C conventions!) he would suggest locations and also a practice run or two to make sure the photography was good and that there were suitable locations for apple pie! Then we'd talk about the conditions and how our equipment worked or didn't and how to set up shots.

Participate in contests. Ray always entered club contests. At time surprising ones--in particular the time he entered a digital contest and won an award. Some one 'gave him' the camera to try it out. Winning was good, participating was better. I'm told he also knew that if he entered a contest he didn't have to judge that contest--a trick our current members also know about!

Share your best. If you asked Ray about a location he'd give you his suggestions about how to photograph it or tell you it wasn't worth *your* time. No tricks, but he also didn't expect to have to tell you the same thing twice. We all could learn from Ray!

N4C Handbook & N4C Directory 2009-2010

Available in PDF format

Request copies (two separate books now)** sent to you via email and it is FREE.

OR

On a CD for \$3.00

Printed copies for the Handbook is \$7.00

and for the Directory is \$8.00

Both the Handbook and the Directory is \$15.00

Contact Mary Jane at N4Chandbook@centraliowacameraclub.com
for further information or to place an order.

** In the Directory, you will find contact information for individuals and clubs, Contest info (where to send your entries) and information on the awards given by the council. In the Handbook, you will find the constitution, bylaws and contest rules.

Workshop Opportunity.....

My friend and National Geographic photographer Robert Postma will be doing two workshops in the Yukon Territories in 2010, one in late July and the other in late August. I went with him last August and had one of the single best photographic trips of a lifetime and had an awful lot of fun in the process. There is no question in my mind that I WILL return to this magnificent territory again and am planning on doing the Water and Light tour in 2010 . If you have any interest please check out Robert's photography (<http://www.distanthorizons.ca>) and if you'd like to see my success of last year go here (<http://joeland.smugmug.com/Outside-the-United-States/Yukon-Territory-Fall-2009>). Details about both trips are here - <http://cabinfeveradventures.com/photographyvacations.html> Likewise if this is not to your liking Robert is also available for photographers in smaller groups with specific itineraries.

Jo Eland



Info For Clubs

Similar comments received from several clubs in the last two months: Entering Digital Clubs - Please include your club name in the subject line of your email!! Content of the email message should also include which monthly contest and how many images are attached to the email.

Thank You!

The following clubs have not paid their N4C Dues at this date.

Please submit your payment to: Lynda Richards, N4C Treasurer
4236 228 th Ave.
Hartford, IA 50118

Ames
LaCrosse
Minot

Cheyenne
Lidgerwood
St. Paul
Wyandotte

Fargo-Moorhead
Lincoln
Women's Color

Please Help us with E-Bulletin Distribution.....

Please share the following with your camera club friends that might not be getting their copy of the N4C News Bulletin.

A large number of the N4C Bulletins sent out last month by email were returned as: sender unknown. It is believed that the email addresses are correct and many of them were new addresses just recently provided for inclusion in the directory.

Please check your spam filter or junk email box, and also add the e-bulletin publisher: photopeople01@aol.com to your approved sender list and your address book. Hopefully this will help to make sure everyone who wants to receive the bulletin electronically can do so.



Contest Results.....

Photojournalism - Prints (September)

- 1st Hitting the Wall - Ed Siems, Central Iowa
 - 2nd Devastation in Hugo - JoAnne Kuntemeier, Kaposia
 - 3rd Determined for 1st Place - Jim Kost, Mitchell
 - HM Sasparilla Kid - Ty Smith, Mitchell
 - HM Union Prepares to Fire - Ed Lower, Color Shooters
 - HM Light Up the Night - Ed Lorson, Iowa City
- 16 Prints from 7 Clubs. Judging Club: Shutterbug, Chair: John F. Larson, Jr. Judges: Jack Gustison, James McMurry, Sarah Bissell.

Black and White Prints

- 1st Mabry Mills - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
 - 2nd El Capitan - Loren Brown, Des Moines
 - 3rd Upper Yosemite Falls - Loren Brown, Des Moines
 - HM Infrared Pond & Reflection - Steve Paulson, Sioux City
 - HM Through the Window - Vernice Kingsberry, Sioux City
 - HM Angry Lion - Claudia Gathercole, Des Moines
- 34 prints from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Cedar Rapids. Chair: Regina Kotowski. Judges: Susan Tichy, Udine Fink, John Chadima. Good

Color Prints

- 1st Josie 7071 - Jo Eland, Iowa City
 - 2nd Court House Lights - Jack Bristow, Sioux City
 - 3rd Red Daylilly - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
 - HM Canyon View - Larry Carb, Sioux City
 - HM Blooming Meadow - Danny Barker, Central Iowa
 - HM Fire Belly Frog - Ed Lorson, Iowa City
- 40 prints from 10 clubs. Judging Club: MN Valley. Judges: Kevin Corrigan, Chris Wennen, Bob Fors. A varied assortment of pictures. A lot of conversation between judges. A three way tie needed discussion.

Creative Contemporary Prints

- 1st Shaggy Dog - Dick Gagne, LaCrosse
 - 2nd Overwhelmed With Biofuel - Ken Johnson, Des Moines
 - 3rd Herbie's World - Jim Kost, Mitchell
 - HM Spooksters - Jim Kost, Mitchell
 - HM Reflections - James Hollander, Sioux City
 - HM It's Not a B&W World - Terry Kruse, Des Moines
- 29 prints from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Kaposia. Judges: Esther Craine, Nancy Haas, Mary Jane Melnick.

Photo Travel Prints

- 1st Munising Falls - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
 - 2nd Garden in the Rain, Oregon - Jack Bristow, Sioux City
 - 3rd Stream in Washington St. - Ken Feldhacker, SW Iowa Shutterbugs
 - HM Cutting the Alfalfa, Palouse, WA - Ken Johnson, Des Moines
 - HM Arches National Park, Utah - Claudia Gathercole, Des Moines
 - HM Ponca St. Park Icons, Neb. - Steve Paulson, Sioux City
- 21 Prints from 6 clubs. Judging Club: Central Iowa. Chair: Jim Svec. Judges: Mark George, Diane Barker, Ed Siems.

Photojournalism - Prints

- 1st Rib Lake High Jumper - John Larson, Shutterbug
 - 2nd Red Shirt Blacksmith - John Larson, Shutterbug
 - 3rd Hose Target Practice - Steve Paulson, Sioux City
 - HM Two Wheeled Duet - Scott Bricker, Sioux City
 - HM This Little Piggy Went to Market - Kevin Smith, Sioux City
- 20 prints from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Women's Color. Chair: Jean McDonough, Carol Madison, Debbie Kippen. We deliberately chose to give only 2 HMs.

October Contest Results Continued.....

Nature Prints

- 1st Lake Kluane - Jo Eland, Iowa City
2nd Somwhere - Terry Kruse, Des Moines
3rd Roseate Spoonbill - Mike Landwehr, Des Moines
HM Seal Rock at Sunrise - Edgar Lower, Color Shooters
HM Loon - Kevin Smith, Sioux City
HM Surveying His Domain - Sharla Glick, Des Moines
36 Prints from 7 clubs. Judging Club: Cedar Rapids. Chair: Regina Kotowski. Judges: Susan Tichy, Udine Fink, John Chadima. Very good bunch of photos.

Creative Contemporary Slides

- 1st Hell Rider - Larry Crabb, Sioux City
2nd Cannon Fire - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
3rd Glass Eyes - Dick Gagne, LaCrosse
HM Abstract of Buildings - Florence Nelson, Color Shooters
HM Fish and Cat - Connie Lower, Color Shooters
HM Fire Ring - Delores Meister, Iowa City
20 Slides from 8 Clubs. Judging Club: Kaposia. Judges: Esther Crane, Nancy Haas and Mary Jane Melnick.

Photo Travel Slides

- 1st Prayer Time Lhasa - Herb Gustafson, St. Paul
2nd San Franavelsco? - Chuck Peterson, Sioux City
3rd Dome on the Sea, Puerto Rico - Colleen McGuire, St. Paul
HM Big Sable Light - Morris Gildemeister, St. Paul
HM Chocolate Falls, AZ. - Delores Meister, Iowa City
HM River Roadway, China - Gerry Solomons, Iowa City
24 Slides from 7 clubs. Judging Club: Central Iowa. Chair: Jim Svec. Judges: Teresa Vokoun, Danny Barker, Diane Barker.

Nature Slides

- 1st Baby Beaver - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
2nd Coral Mushroom - Gene Schwope, St. Paul
3rd Butterfly on Star Flower - Richard Southwick, Heart O' Lakes
HM Milkweed Pod - Robert Nelson, St. Paul
HM River Sunrise - Randell Williams, Sioux City
HM Fall at Zion Park Utah - Ty Smith, Mitchell
32 slides from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Shutterbug. Chair: Shirley White. Judges: Jack Gustison, Sara Bissell, Jim McMurry. Always a pleasure to judge such great photographers.

2 X 2 Pictorial Slides

- 1st Clouds Over the Tetons - Jim Kost, Mitchell
2nd Bridge Reflection - Elanor Schueller, Dubuque
3rd Baloon Parade - Connie Lower, Color Shooters
HM Reaching to Heaven - Elanor Schueller, Dubuque
HMA Passing Storm - Ed Siems, Central Iowa
HM Red Hibiscus - Teresa Vokoun, Central Iowa
39 Slides from 9 clubs. Judging club: Anamosa. Chair: Wilma Anderson. Judges: Norma Brady, Lorraine Barger, Barry Anderson. Our club had some very nice slides to judge. You can tell that all the new camera technology has taken over for we didn't judge near the slides as in years past. Judging is a fun get together to view great pictures, eat snacks, and enjoy the evening.

Photojournalism - Projected Images

- 1st Obama Fire It Up - John Anderson, Minnesota Valley
2nd A Foggy Morning - Jim Wendel, Albert Lea L&S
3rd Teamwork Delivers Water - Bob Gillespie, Sioux City
HM Avoid the Gate - John Larson, Shutterbug
HM Night at the Falls - Ron Tigges, Dubuque
HM Remains of a Winter Fire - Jamie Hauer, Albert Lea

63 Entries from 18 Clubs. 17 entries were conventional slides of which none received awards. Judging Club: Women's Color Photo. Chair: Linda Jameson. Judges: Pauline Nystrom, Carol Madison, Jean McDonough. Judges felt Foggy Morning would be seen in a weather/community section of a newspaper.

October Contest Results Continued.....

Digital Pictorial

- 1st Fishin In the Dark - Terry Kruse, Des Moines
- 2nd Caribbean Catharsis - Ron Balthazor, Sioux Falls
- 3rd Spiderweb - Pam Weil
- HM Blacksmith - Neil Marcus, Wichita
- HM Fine Feathers - Kenneth Plank, Lincoln
- HM Dock - Paul Amicucci, Fargo-Moorhead

111 entries from 22 clubs. Judging Club: Du-
buque. Judges: Cara Pusateri, Lois Pancratz, Nick
Lucy. Great selection of entries. Good quality

Digital Nature

- 1st Prairie Smoke - Rick Graves, Minnesota Valley
- 2nd Bee On Goldenrod - Morris Gildemeister, St. Paul
- 3rd Yellow Rose - Kenneth Plank, Lincoln
- HM Three Ducks a Flyin - Jerry Burnell, Wichita
- HM Colorburst - Jim Zuales, Minnesota Valley
- HM Yukon 6495 - Jo Eland, Iowa City

99 Entries from 20 clubs. Judging Club: Des
Moines. Chair: Jayne Owen. Judges: Diane Dar-
nielle, Rick McCubbin, Dwight Tomes. Many Ex-
cellent Images. Several of the images were taken
with harsh lighting (e.g. mid day). Interesting
contest!

Digital Creative/Contemporary

- 1st Walnut Hill - Terry Kruse, Des Moines
- 2nd Cooking Ingredients - John Larson, Shutterbug
- 3rd Around the Village - Bob Rude, Iowa City
- HM Spooksters - Jim Kost, Mitchell
- HM Palouse Barn - Jo Eland, Iowa City
- HM Tim Burton Sunset - Randy Housey, Duluth

68 Entries from 19 clubs. Judging Club: St. Paul.
Chair: Gene Schwope. Judges: Jim Duncan, Matt
Ebbers, Pattie LaVance. Many excellent images,
but many were not contemporary or barely Con-
temporary. Simply converting a color image to
B/W does not make it a Contemporary image.

N4C Finishes Second in PSA Council Challenge

N4C scored an impressive Second Place overall finish in the recently completed PSA Council Challenge Competition. This was the first time that N4C has entered the contest.

Ten Councils competed this year; nine from the USA and one from Finland, to give the competition an International flavor. Two hundred forty individual images were entered.

In the various categories, N4C finished Second in Slides, Third in Digital, and tied for Fourth in Prints. Our total score was 15 points behind the NECCC, the New England Camera Club Council, and 18 points ahead of CACCA, the Chicago Area Camera Club Association.

Individual N4C winners were:

Pat Schwope: St. Paul CC, 3rd Place in Slides with "Table Bluff Lighthouse #2" and
Ron Balthazor: Sioux Falls CC, HM in Digital with "Buck's Road House"

The Councils that entered the competition were:

NECCC: New England Camera Club Council
N4C: North Central Camera Club Council
CACCA: Chicago Area Camera Club Association
TCACCC: Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs
GSCCC: Gulf States Camera Club Council
WACCO: Wisconsin Area Camera Club Association
AFCC: Association of Finnish Camera Clubs
NWCCC: Northwest Council of Camera Clubs
S4C: Southern California Council of Camera Clubs
DVCCC: Delaware Valley Council of Camera Clubs

The judging took place on July 2, 2009. The entire event was organized and coordinated by Roz Kleffman, and the membership of the Bowie-Crofton Camera Club, in Bowie, Maryland.

All prints, slides, and awards will be returned in the next few weeks. Thanks to all N4C members who submitted images to be entered.

Gene Schwope, PSA Representative

Club Program Ideas by Sharla Glick

In October I was asked (OK, I was asked LAST YEAR sometime, but it was for the October meeting. What do you mean you're supposed to start preparations before October?) to present a program for the Des Moines Camera Club. It was supposed to be a short "mini" program, as there were two other speakers to present the same evening. I, of course, chose a topic that could be covered in sufficient depth, completely and succinctly, in about 15 minutes: "*Improving Your Photography Through Composition*" Needless to say, my presentation went a little over 15 minutes (OK, 30) and I'm not sure how completely I managed to cover anything. But I hope a few people may have gotten some new ideas, or maybe just a helpful reminder. And at the least, I may have been able to make someone feel better, in that we've all been the "victim" of an image we loved, that just didn't quite measure up for the judges. But what I thought I'd share with you, is my list of "could have been" ideas, in case you are asked to do something similar. It's always great when our own members are able to give back something to our clubs by sharing their talents with others.

Sensor Cleaning

Noise Reduction: software and techniques

Microfocus adjustments

Photomatix vs. Dynamic HDR

Flickr, Smugmug, and other photo sharing sites

Topaz plug ins

Beginning Lighting Techniques

Street Photography

Image Re-Sizing and workflow

Lens Focus testing

Autofocus techniques and options

Advanced B&W adjustments

Used equipment purchases

Time lapse photography

Sports Photography

Projects/Self Study Ideas

Silos and Smokestacks—Third Annual Contest Winners:

Congrats to all the winners in this years contest, several of whom are N4C member club members. If you see names of people in your area that are not members of your local photo club, why not contact them to congratulate them and encourage them to join your club? Keep your eye on www.silosandsmokestacks.org for details of the 2010 contest to be announced in the spring.

Best of Show: Danyell Klein, Ankeny, IA.

1st Place: Danyell Klein, Ankeny, IA, *Events & Festivals*; Margaret Klink, Montezuma, IA, *Farm Life*; Howard Vrankin, Newton, IA, *Heritage Area Sites*; Ann Cejka, Cedar Rapids, IA, *Images of the Past*; Roy Moore, Cedar Rapids, IA, *Scenic*.

2nd Place: Jenny Bethurem, Ames, IA, *Events & Festivals*; Wilford Yoder, Iowa City, IA, *Farm Life*; Linda Staats, St. Paul, MN, *Heritage Area Sites*; Margaret Klink, Montezuma, IA, *Images of the Past*; Lucas Payne, Anchorage, AK, *Scenic*.

3rd Place: Bob Lancaster, Marion, IA, *Events & Festivals*; Roy Moore, Cedar Rapids, IA, *Farm Life*; Howard Vrankin, Newton, IA, *Heritage Area Sites*; Joyce Meyer, Spillville, IA *Scenic*.

Honorable Mention: Jenny Bethurem, Ames, IA; Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, IA; Linda Staats, St. Paul, MN; Wilford Yoder, Iowa City, IA; Michelle Porter, Delhi, IA; Sara Goemaat, Belmond, IA; Lucas Payne, Anchorage, AK; Bob Lancaster, Marion, IA; Craig Schwartz, Reasnor, IA.; Howard Vrankin, Newton, IA; Roy Moore, Cedar Rapids, IA; June Walker, Truro, IA; Robert Hill, Waterloo, IA; and Tyler Gunderson, Lisbon, IA.

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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N4C is affiliated with the Photographic Society of America.

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This is where you will find the information on Judging clubs as well as contact info for N4C members from each club.

Note that only changes to the judging club schedule will be published in the bulletin, so N4C contest representatives from each club will need to check the Directory for where to send entries each month.

North Central Camera Club Council

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