



The North Central Camera Club Council News Bulletin

"Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends"

Volume 45 No. 4

WWW.N4C.US

November/December, 2009



Buck's Roadhouse, Ron Balthazor

N4C Individual Award Winners - PSA Council Challenge

As reported last month in the Bulletin, not only did N4C as a Council place 2nd overall in the PSA Council Challenge, but some individual members also received awards. Pat Schwope earned a 3rd place in slides with "Table Bluff Lighthouse #2" and Ron Balthazor earned an Honorable Mention in Digital competition with "Buck's Road House."

If you have some contest winning (or otherwise noteworthy) images you'd like to share with our readers, please submit them to edit@n4c.us. Images will be published as space is available.

IMPORTANT CHANGE FOR JANUARY CONTESTS

Address Change for Creative Contemporary Prints/Slides

Please send entries to:

LaCrosse Area Camera Club

**Gerald Bonsack,
N6261 Jason St.,
Onalaska, WI 54650-9720**

Thank You!



*Table Bluff Lighthouse #2,
Pat Schwope*

Did I Miss an Issue????

You may notice that this month's edition of the Bulletin is titled "November/December." It's always been a bit confusing for some that the publication months are off. For example the edition that came out in September was titled "August."

Generally, although clubs work as quickly as they can, contest results are not received until the end of the month, it then takes a great deal of time to put all those results and assorted news into the publication. By the time the Bulletin is published, it is well into the next month.

So starting with the January issue, (there will not be a "December" issue) the publication will be titled with the CURRENT month as the date, although it will contain the previous month's contest results. This will not affect the publication date, number of issues or content. It will just hopefully make a bit more sense.

Any comments or suggestions regarding the N4C Bulletin are always welcome. Have a Happy Holiday Season!

Sharla Glick, Editor
edit@N4C.us

Guidelines for Entering Digital Slide Contests

Judging clubs have extra work when the simple rules are not followed.

Please check your Digital Slide entries before sending them for judging. Look for three things:

1. File size 500KB max. (Between 100KB and 500KB will give the best results).
2. Longest side 1,024 pixels max. (1,024 is best to fill the screen for the judges).
3. File name should look like this example:

01,DE028,DP,BeautifulSunset.jpg

If you need help with any one of these details, there are articles on the web describing how to size images and name them for contests. See links <http://n4c.us/> on the "Competition" or "Supplies & Forms" page.

Because of the variety of computers and operating systems, it is difficult to address them all. I am using Windows XP. When I open a folder containing images, I set the view to "List" or "Details" (View > Details). When I hover the cursor over the file name, a box pops up and tells me the dimensions in pixels and the size in KB. (Sometimes it even tells me the camera and the date the picture was taken.) This is a very quick way to check all three things.

Ken Johnson
A Digital Slide Contest Chair

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

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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.

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

Ames
Minot

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

MEMORIAL BEACON LIGHTING

by

Jean McDonough (Women's Color Photo Dec, 2009 News and Views)

Every year on November 10, the Split Rock navigational beacon is lit in memory of the 29 men lost aboard the Edmund Fitzgerald and all the other vessels lost on the Great Lakes. The Annual Memorial Beacon Lighting also gives people the unique opportunity to visit the interior of the light tower while the beacon is lit.

Linda Jameson, Jean McDonough, and several others from North Metro Photo Club traveled to Two Harbors to visit John Gregor and his Cold Snap Studio before traveling up to Split Rock for this event. We did visit the interior of the light tower before it was lit. We opted to set up our tripods across the water to photograph the Light House with reflections. When we arrived at an area we thought would be a good photo opportunity, we found that some photographers had brought lawn chairs, coolers, and had set up their tripods earlier in the afternoon and waited for the beacon to be turned on after the ceremony at the light tower where a bell was rung for each of the 29 men lost aboard the Edmund Fitzgerald. There were kayakers navigating the waters and it was a challenge to get one of them in the reflection.

The Edmund Fitzgerald left on her final voyage at 2:15 p.m. on November 9, 1975. The vessel had loaded over 26,000 tons of taconite at Superior, Wisconsin. At that same time, a storm that had developed over the Oklahoma Panhandle was headed north on a voyage of its own, and the two would meet on the waters of Lake Superior on November 10. Within the next 30 hours, the big lake went from a slight ripple and calm winds to 30 foot seas, 90-mph wind gusts and blinding snow squalls. No one denies it was the storm of the century.

What happened to the Fitzgerald during her final voyage remains a mystery. Her hatch covers may have caved in; she may have grounded on Caribou Shoals; or one or more giant waves may have picked up her stern and nosed her under. Sadly, whatever happened, Superior had claimed another ship.



Image taken November 10, 2009
"Split Rock with Beacon Lighting"
Jean McDonough

Black and White Prints

- 1st Old Washington St. Barn - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
 - 2nd Disgust - Francis Kingsbury, Sioux City
 - 3rd Deadeye - Brad Short, Wyandotte
 - HM A Mad Lake Superior - Scott Thomson, Duluth/Superior
 - HM Too Cool - Don Francis, Fargo/Moorhead
 - HM 32A - Vernice Kingsbury, Sioux City
- 42 entries from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Heart O' Lakes. Chair: Renae Southwick. Judges: Nancy Carter, Jim Walter, Judy Brown. Comments: Winning prints were very well done, exhibiting a wide range of tones. More attention should be given to correct labeling.

Color Prints

- 1st Uniontown Barn 3011 - Jo Eland, Iowa City
 - 2nd Autumn Surf at Split Rock Lighthouse - Linda Dunlap, Duluth/Superior
 - 3rd Autumn Bonfire - Herb Proudfit, Iowa City
 - HM Split Rock Lighthouse #3 - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
 - HM Sunrise Departure - Tom Ling, Duluth/Superior
 - HM Dragonfly - Ryno W. Olson, Great River
- 42 entries from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Des-Moines. Chair: Jayne Owen. Judges: Terry Kruse, Dwight Tomes, Diane Darnielle. Comments: Happy Holidays!!

Creative Contemporary Prints

- 1st Bodie Store Front - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
 - 2nd Palouse Barn - Jo Eland, Iowa City
 - 3rd The Cross Walk - Bob Rude, Iowa City
 - HM Red Hedge - Teresa Vokoun, Central Iowa
 - HM Light in the Casby - Meg Klink, Central Iowa
 - HM Patch Work - Nancy Ulrich, Duluth/Superior
- 24 prints from 9 clubs. Judging Club: Fargo/Moorhead. Chair: Bruce W. Bernstein. Judges: Pam Bernstein, Chuck Ruzicka, Lori Noriega. Comments: Some of the entrants would benefit by attempting to add the following Photoshop techniques: layers, layer opacity, layer masks and blend modes. Many good ideas and attempts. Fun to judge, thanks to all.

Photo Travel Prints

- 1st Dumo 9011 - Jo Eland, Iowa City
 - 2nd Portland Head Light - Mike Landwehr, Des Moines
 - 3rd Michigan Bond Falls - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
 - HM Miami Skyline - Kevin Nabity, Des Moines
 - HM Duluth Lighthouse - Teresa Vokoun, Central Iowa
 - HM Late Afternoon, Mono Lake - Tom Ling, Duluth/Superior
- 28 Prints from 6 clubs. Judging Club: Color Shooters. Judges: Albert Doyle, Dorothy Stevenson, Connie Lower. Comments: The judges really enjoyed seeing travel pictures from near and far. A few entries did not indicate where the picture was taken.

Photojournalism - Prints

- 1st Spurring Out - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
 - 2nd It's a Goner - Robert Gillespie, Sioux City
 - 3rd Long Reach - Scott Thomson, Duluth/Superior
 - HM Big Wreck - Ed Siems, Central Iowa
 - HM AZ Bites the Dust - Bob Rasmus, Sioux City
- 29 prints from 9 clubs. Judging Club: Minnesota Valley. Chair: Chris Wennen. Judges: Judy Dickerson, Bob McGrath, Pennie Brown.

Nature Prints

- 1st Bond Falls Z - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
 - 2nd Gold Finch - Kevin Smith, Sioux City
 - 3rd Mrs. Wood Duck - Mike Walsh, Sioux City
 - HM Moss and Stream - Bob Lahti, Duluth/Superior
 - HM Through a Picture Window - Cathy Khalar, Duluth/Superior
 - HM The Loon - Paul Hagen, Fargo/Moorhead
- 39 entries from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Heart O' Lakes. Chair: Renae Southwick. Judges: Nancy Carter, Jim Walter, Judy Brown. Comments: Nice variety of images, clubs need to pay attention to correct labeling of their images.

November Contest Results Continued.....

Creative Contemporary Slides

- 1st Bushman Abstract - Herb Gustafson, St. Paul
 - 2nd One Note - Jim Duncan, St. Paul
 - 3rd Fancy Wheel - Tom Atkinson, Sioux City
 - HM Drinking Nightmare - Delores Meister, Iowa City
 - HM BL Poinsetta in Vase - Ed Lower, Color Shooters
 - HM Poor Woody - Steve Kobs, St. Paul
- 19 slides from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Fargo/Moorhead. Chair: Bruce W. Bernstein. Judges: Pam Bernstein, Chuck Ruzicka, Lori Noriega.

2 1/4 Slides

- 1st Maroon Bells & Reflection - Ed Lower, Color Shooters
 - 2nd Lake at Mt. Moran - Connie Lower, Color Shooters
 - 3rd Bryce Canyon - Ed Siems, Central Iowa
 - HM Evening on McDonald Lake - Teresa Vokoun, Central Iowa
 - HM Boats at Pyramid Lake - Connie Lower, Color Shooters
 - HM Red Amaryllis - Ed Lower, Color Shooters
- 11 Slides from 4 clubs. Judging Club: Sioux City. Chair: Carl Hardy. Judges: Bob Gillespie, Kevin Smith, Carl Hardy. Comments: The winning slides were very colorful showing the real beauty of our land. They were well composed using excellent photography technique.

Photo Travel Slides

- 1st Dusty Monks - Hope Solomons, Iowa City
 - 2nd Identical Twins - Gerry Solomons, Iowa City
 - 3rd Canyonlands - Ed Siems, Central Iowa
 - HM Farm Designs - Gene Schwope, St. Paul
 - HM Lhasa Monk II - Herb Gustafson, St. Paul
 - HM Church of Ichmul - Hernan Navarrete, St. Paul
- 33 Slides from 9 clubs. Judging Club: Color Shooters. Judges: Albert Doyle, Dorothy Stevenson, Connie Lower. Comments: This month the judges saw an interesting group of travel pictures. N4C members really travel, near and far.

Nature Slides

- 1st Barn Owl - John Chadima, Cedar Rapids
 - 2nd Wolf & Pups - SuAnn Tichy, Cedar Rapids
 - 3rd Sandhill Crane - Steve Paulson, Sioux City
 - HM Horseshoe Bend - Larry Crabb, Sioux City
 - HM Prismatic Patterns - Randall Williams, Sioux City
 - HM Rocky Stairway Alabama Hills - Regina Kotowske, Cedar Rapids
- 31 Slides from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Mitchell. Chair: Jim Kost. Judges: Bob Podhradsky, Ty Smith, Dan Randall. Comments: Over all very good slides. Judges felt the winners did a good job.

2 X 2 Pictorial Slides

- 1st Aspen Glow - Steve Kobs, St. Paul
 - 2nd Sunset Gold 4 - Herb Gustafson, St. Paul
 - 3rd Bison at Mouton - Connie Lower, Color Shooters
 - HM Rocky Shores on Mediterranean - Regina Kotowske, Cedar Rapids
 - HM Tumacaori Pots - Larry Crabb, Sioux City
 - HM Glass in Hand - Gregour Beatty, St. Paul
- 40 slides from 11 clubs. Judging Club: Central Iowa. Chair: Jim Svec. Judges: Mark Hayes, Diane Barker, Ed Siems. Comments: nice variety of slides. Some needed to be cleaned before sending in again.

Photojournalism - Projected Images

- 1st Outa Control - Steve Paulson, Sioux City
 - 2nd Demo Derby Rescue - Carol Madison, North Metro
 - 3rd Biker Up Side Down - Jean McDonough, Women's Color
 - HM Who's Winning - Linda Jameson, Women's Color
 - HM Fighting for First - Ron Tigges, Dubuque
 - HM Petting Baby Harp Seal - Jean McDonough, Women's Color
- 65 entries from 18 clubs. Judging Club: Minnesota Valley. Chair: Chris Wennen. Judges: Judy Dickerson, Bob McGrath, Pennie Brown. (Editor's note: judging report does not distinguish digital vs. traditional slide entries, it appears all award winners were digital.)

November Contest Results Continued.....

Digital Creative/Contemporary

- 1st Bannack Truck - Gene Schwope, St. Paul
- 2nd Palouse Crop Duster - Ken Johnson, Des Moines
- 3rd WWII Vet - Lisa Fleetwood, Wichita
- HM Old Car - Jo Eland, Iowa City Camera Club
- HM Bumble Bee Weave Sat - Jerry Bonsack, LaCrosse
- HM High Water #2 - Morris Gildemeister, St. Paul

81 Entries from 21 Clubs. Judging Club: Shutterbug. Chair: John Larson. Judges: Jack Gustison, Shirley White, Sarah Bissell.

Digital Pictorial

- 1st Stoneman Bridge Reflection - Robert Lahti, Duluth/Superior
- 2nd Running Free - Mandy Walter, Heart O' Lakes
- 3rd Mt. Moran, Jackson Lake - Tom Ling, Duluth/Superior
- HM Waterfalls - Duane Wraalstad, North Metro
- HM Fog at Sunrise - Teresa Vokoun, Central Iowa
- HM Cannon Beach #2 - Gene Schwope, St. Paul

127 entries from 24 clubs. Judging Club: Sioux City. Chair: Steve Paulson. Judges: Bill Schwartz, James Hollander, Bob Gillespie. Comments: There were many really good photos. It was hard for the judges to pick the winners.

Digital Nature

- 1st Prairie Sunrise - Tom Knight, Central Iowa
- 2nd Golden Sunrise - Bill Schwarz, Sioux City
- 3rd Blue Dragonfly - Gene Schwope, St. Paul
- HM Success - Linda Jameson, Women's Color
- HM Spidey Attacks - Ron Tigges, Dubuque
- HM Prickly Perch - John Zoreb, LaCrosse

111 entries from 23 clubs. Judging Club: Iowa City. Chair: Jo Eland. Judges: Dee Meister, Cecil Organ, Gerry Solomons.

N4C Member Numbers

It seems that the majority of entrants are including their N4C member numbers on their entries. This is appreciated as it helps ensure that records are accurate and you are credited with the proper number of points for end of year awards and recognitions.

This system will not work however, if judging clubs don't include the number on the results form. PLEASE include any member numbers available on the results form when recording judging results.

It will be a while before judging forms are re-printed with a spot for this information, but in the meantime you can just place the number following the entrant's name.

Thank You!!

Photojournalism Winners Added to N4C Web Site

The winners of the PJ Projected contests of September through November have been added to the N4C web site. Find this contest and others at <http://n4c.us/> and click on "Winner Galleries".

Studying the characteristics of these winners could help you select strong future entries from your portfolios. Just imagine how your photos might do in a contest along with these. Of course that would never happen because these winners are not eligible for future contests.

Ken Johnson, N4C webmaster

Should Limitations be Placed on Digital Adjustments?

By Ken Johnson

A common question. Should N4C curtail the use of any Photoshop or other photography software techniques? Documentary photography such as photojournalism and nature do need guidelines. So I will limit my answer to other categories.

I like to refer to "post-processing" and avoid the use of "manipulation" which to me has a negative connotation. Setting such limitations has been debated at all levels and in numerous publications. The subject gets more complex as time passes because of continual technology advances in computer capabilities as well as advancements in cameras. We also are experiencing an age-old discussion about when a photo becomes art. Look at the photo magazines such as *Popular Photography*, *Shutterbug*, and *Outdoor Photographer*. They cover everything related to photography and I wouldn't want N4C to be topically any more restrictive than such publications.

I suppose I am one who is enjoying the capabilities we have today. It's exciting. I love to see what others are doing even though I may not know how it is done. I am inspired to learn. Some images work for me and others don't. Some effects are used to enhance while others are abusive.

I go back to several of the founding N4C purpose statements:

**to stimulate invention and research in photographic techniques and the general application thereof
to accumulate and disseminate information on the science and practice of photography**

I do not favor setting rules which limit this advancement. Enforcement would be difficult to impossible. Most important is that this is a hobby and the reward of N4C membership is fun and enjoyment.

We are seeing our clubs' membership undergoing a transformation. It is not rare in these times to find members who have never shot with a film camera. At the same time we have other members who have never shot digital. This is happening more in some clubs than others. We endeavor to find opportunities for growth in both of these camps. If we draw some comparisons to parenting, we must let our children grow and advance. We don't want them to necessarily be clones of their parents. Change is inevitable. It might also be enviable.

Now to be very frank. When I hear about curtailing certain photographic capabilities, I want to ask "Why?" I don't want it to be an excuse with arguments such as:

- I don't know how to do that.
- I can't afford to do that.
- I don't have that software
- I can't do that with film
- I don't like the way that looks
- It never could be done that way in the darkroom.
- I can't do that so it gives an unfair advantage to those who can.

As viewers of our friend's photography it is as simple as "Do I like what I see?".

- Do I like the Technique used?
- Do I like the Composition?
- Do I like the Interest or Impact?

This topic involves an underlying aspect of photography that is responsible for holding my interest in N4C. I get a broader exposure than is possible from only my own club. Most of this discussion has been about learning and growth in the field of photography. The other side of the coin is sharing. I enjoy sharing my photography with others and likewise having others share their work with me. I learn in that way also. I do not grade my love of photography based on contest points I occasionally receive. I always enter photos that I like - I like some better than others. I am always happy to have a venue in which to show them. The opinion of only the three contest judges is informative and might tell me how I could improve but does not change my opinion of my own work.

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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