



The North Central Camera Club Council News Bulletin

"Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends"

Volume 51 No. 4

WWW.N4C.US

February, 2016

President's Message

Greetings lovers of all things photographic!

With January over it's time to start thinking spring and in particular Springbrook! The details of our annual gathering are included in this newsletter. Linda Rutherford has worked hard to provide us with a wide variety of topics and I encourage you to sign up!

I'm back in Iowa after three weeks in India and am finally on Iowa time which is so very helpful as Trivandrum (extreme southern India) is 11.5 hours different than Iowa time. When you combine that with a 120 degree temperature difference (that's if you count the minus 35 wind chill we were greeted with here at home) it's quite a change.

This was my seventh trip to Trivandrum and the people never cease to amaze me as it is also a photographic experience unlike any other. This year I took 15 University of Iowa students with me and taught a 3 credit hour university course which includes home visits to people who are pretty sick. Team Iowa breaks up into about five smaller teams when we do home visits and one student in each group takes photos of that teams visits and I photograph the team I am with. Four years ago I started taking photographs of the patients (with their permission) which I originally was hesitant to photograph for fear that I was invading their privacy. It's one thing to do street photography but these people are ill and some will not survive more than a few days and we were in their homes. The majority of people we visit are also very poor, fall below India's poverty lines and live in homes without so much as a picture on the wall.



"91 and sparkles"

91 year old wonderful character with advanced breast cancer who is just full of spunk



Traveling pharmacy – we take out many medicines which are in blister packs so we can fill prescriptions for people on the spot at no cost.

Fortunately for me there is a fabulous Kodak lab not 100 feet from the front of our hotel so to have prints made is fairly easy although no one at the lab speaks any English and I do not speak Malayalam! I found that if I take them a thumb drive with folders with the first number being how many copies and the second the size of print it works very well. (7-6x4 yields seven copies of anything in that folder). Prints are very inexpensive with a 6 x 4 costing about twelve cents and a 5 x 7 twenty-five cents. Even though I am only there once a year they now recognize me and smile which is no surprise as I have them print around 400 prints while

I'm there. Everyone who is in a photo gets a copy of the print including the hospice staff. It's fun to sit and wait the hour that it takes to print as it is clearly a business that does a lot of

work for the professional photographers in town and with little introduction they will gladly show their work. Many of the photos are wedding photos and the photographs of the brides and grooms are truly amazing.



Selfie – one of my students with a pediatric patient

Once the prints are done I sort them and put them into envelopes and the teams take them to the patients on their next visit. This year in particular it was fun to see previous years photographs on people's walls and big smiles when we entered their homes. In addition to being a bit of a thank you for allowing us to be in their homes I can't help but think it also leaves a positive feeling about a bunch of Americans who came to visit them and gave them a small token of appreciation. It's also interesting to see how much the staff and volunteers appreciate the photos as well. On our last day I had close to one hundred photos for the staff and handed them out around 9 am and at 10 am when we had a break from class they were all gone. Of course the students get copies of the photos that they are in which also makes for a memorable time for them.



Jegarty - a clinic where individuals come to see the physician and nurses, have tea at 11 am and lunch at 1. It's a community of pretty sick people that have formed their own support group.

For me the photos also represent meeting some remarkable people and the photos serve as a consistent reminder of them and the work the hospice does six days a week fifty-two weeks a year.

Spring is coming!

Jo Eland
ElandPhoto@mchsi.com

2016 N4C Communication Contests Are Open

To all N4C Bulletin Editors and Webmasters. The 2016 Communications Contests have begun, and these contests are open to all N4C club Editors and Webmasters. The final deadline for entries will be April 1, 2016, but feel free to enter whenever you are ready. Some have already submitted their entries.

These are fun competitions, and they are easy to enter:

Editors: Look back as far as last May, and enter your favorite issue, or maybe a future issue. Just send me a .pdf file and your contact information and I will compile everyone's information and send it off to the judges.

Webmasters: If you have been tweaking your Website and you like the results, send me a notice that you want to be included. You can continue tweaking because the judges will not look at your site until the judging begins.

Our judges will study many different criteria, and the Bulletins and Websites that best represents their club, and N4C, will be the winners. Like N4C's annual photography competitions, there will be Gold, Silver and Bronze medals, plus HM Certificates.

There will also be points awarded, which will accrue towards the N4C Club of the Year Award, which is presented at the N4C Convention. Watch the N4C E-Bulletin and my emails for additional announcements. If you have questions, please contact me directly.

Gene Schwope
 Chair: N4C Club Communication Contests
 651-578-1874
photopeople01@aol.com

April 22, 23, & 24, 2016

N4C SPRINGBROOK CAMP-IN REGISTRATION

Springbrook State Park
Near Guthrie Center, Iowa

Mark your calendar NOW to attend.

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

DEADLINE DATE for arrival of your registration is Wednesday, April 13.

NO registration will be accepted after the deadline date of April 13.

PLEASE – This means that you have to mail your registration BEFORE April 13.

NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 18.

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

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: N4C - SPRINGBROOK CAMP – IN

Return Registration & check to:	Delores Meister 421 Pleasant View Dr. Solon, IA 52333	Questions? phone: 319-624-2516 email: LDKlikmeister@aol.com
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Please PRINT

Name(s): _____ Day Phone: () _____ - _____

Address: _____ Eve. Phone: () _____ - _____

City-State-Zip: _____

e-mail address: _____

Member of _____ Camera Club in N4C

	Number of people	Total cost
Package #1: Dorm Room Use @ \$108 per person <i>(Includes: Meals & lodging in dorms. Bring your own soap & toiletries)</i>	_____	\$_____
Package #2: Day Use @ \$93 per person <i>(Includes: Meals & day use learning center. Not use of dorm room)</i>	_____	\$_____
Grand Total		\$_____

Woodland Flowers, Water Drops, and Exotic Places: Springbrook 2016

Friday, April 22

3:00 Check-In
 3:30 Board Meeting - Jo Eland, Presiding
 6:30 Dinner
 7:30 Morocco -Donna Gustafson
 8:30 N4C Results at PSA - Gene Schwope
 9:15 Popcorn

Saturday, April 23

8:00 Breakfast
 9:00 Sports Photography John Larson
 10:00 Break
 10:15 Turkey: Rick McDonald
 11:00 DNR, 50 years of change in the park-Possible wildflower hike
 Noon- 1 pm Lunch
 1:00 Photography Potpourri: Diane Darnielle
 1:45 On Camera Flash: Mark Freier
 2:30 15 minute experts/ panorama print judging.
 -Mr Wizard - Gerry Bonsack Stop Action Water Drops
 -Mark Freier- On Camera Flash hands on
 -Jo Eland- Fun with her drone
 6:00 Dinner
 7:00 Jo Eland "Haidi Gwaii -a broken lens but terrific week long adventure."
 9:00 Popcorn

Sunday, April 24

8:00 Breakfast
 9:00 Invitation to Fargo & Photo Essays - Dwight Tomes
 11:30 Lunch

Campers please note:

Springbrook State Park will be CLOSED from Tuesday, September 8, 2015 through Saturday, April 30, 2016 for road/bridge construction. When work begins, access to the campground, shelters, beach, picnic areas, public hunting, and trails will not be allowed. This closure does not restrict access to the Sherburne Cabin or the Springbrook Conservation Education Center facilities. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the park office at 641-747-3591.

Come and play at the N4C miniconvention at Springbrook State Park- where names become faces and faces become friends! Springbrook looks to be another fun time. We have some great locales to visit vicariously as well as some hands on play time. Learn how to photograph falling water drops, use on camera flash and experience drone photography. Please note the change in date from previously announced to April 22-24. The change was due to a scheduling conflict at the park. Jo Eland has graciously agreed to again emcee the event as 1st V.P. Linda Rutherford was unable to obtain time off from work for the new date. Linda was going to bring some table top set up items for additional photo ops, so if someone would be willing to bring a few items that would be appreciated. Convention schedule and registration form are included in the newsletter. While the campground is closed, nearby Panora has hotels for those who do not wish to stay in the dorms.

Linda Rutherford

Photoessays 2016!

It's easier than ever to do a photoessay in 2016 since a universal (Mac and PC) file type (.mp4) will be used so that your entry can be sent to me electronically, or alternatively on a memory stick or recorded on a DVD disk. This file type has approximately twice the image resolution of the photo essays submitted in 2014.

Your photoessay can be created in your software of choice, but should be exported in the .mp4 format. The .mp4 file entry may be recorded on a CD or DVD disk, a USB memory stick, or electronically via Dropbox. You can save your essay to my Dropbox account by using this link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/lpgd17oowpbyoiw/AAC3EbTDLbnY-mPwJzcrUrV1a?dl=0>

You can save to the folder "submit N4C photoessays 2016". I'll be able to view your essay from this folder. Please use the standard N4C naming convention—noted below—to help me keep track of your essay. Essays received on memory sticks or DVD's will also be placed in this folder location.

The Photo Essay chair should be consulted if there are questions about compatibility at d.tomes@me.com. Entries will be assembled for showing at Springbrook, at the Fall Convention, and for judging. The entry may be a collaborative effort of several people or of an entire club, with the club listed as the author. The member number of the club president of the club will be used for record keeping purposes. The images must be the work of the entrant(s). The photoessay should contain music credits (but not the name of the maker or club).

This annual competition will only be conducted in April. Clubs can have as many entries as desired, but only one entry per member is allowed. Entry forms may be obtained from the N4C website, at the following web site <http://www.n4c.us>, or the Photo Essay chair. The essential information about your photo essay is best communicated by using the N4C file naming convention described at the bottom of this document. **The deadline for photo essay entries is March 31.**

The judging committee will consist of three judges (consistent with other N4C contests). The judging club members who have submitted entries to the photoessay contest may not be judges of the contest in the year their club is responsible for judging the contest. 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.

All the following will be considered by the judges:

- Quality of the photography
- Soundtrack Quality (music and narrative if included)
- Impact, interest, and integration of sound and images.

The minimum number of images is twenty (20) with no limit on maximum number of images, but the program time shall not exceed six (6) 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 title of the essay should be in standard N4C format, i.e. 01,N4C member number,PE,a great photoessay. [Example: 01,DE061,PE,a great photo essay] The entry (sent via dropbox or via regular mail on media such as a DVD disk or USB stick should have the following accompanying information: N4C member number, title, name of entrant, running time, e-mail address of the entrant, and telephone number of the entrant.

Questions—contact Dwight Tomes at d.tomes@me.com or call 515 240 6633. Rough drafts will be 'cheerfully' accepted for feedback and/or advice!

The Twin Cities Area Camera Council presents:
Spring Break 2016
Saturday and Sunday, March 12th and 13th
Mounds View High School
 (1900 Lake Valentine Road, Arden Hills, MN 55112)

Saturday Registration includes: A Day of Jeff Morgan's Programs, Lunch, Snacks, Photo Vendors, U of M Raptor Center Birds, and the 2016 Interclub Awards.

Sunday Registration includes: An Afternoon of Ian Plant's Programs, Coffee Breaks, Snacks and Photo Vendors.

Registration Options:

Saturday AND Sunday combined fee is: \$65

Saturday ONLY registration fee is: \$45

Sunday ONLY Registration fee is: \$35

Registration and Payment Options:

Register Online: www.planetreg.com/E113016193419111

PayPal or Credit Card: Use your PayPal account, or pay with a credit or debit card at no charge through PayPal.

Timing:

Saturday: Doors open at 8:00 am, programs begin at 9:00.

Sunday: Doors open at 11:00 am, programs begin at Noon.

Information:

Online Registration only. No registrations taken at the door. Program Information is available at: www.cameracouncil.org or email Gene Schwope at: photopeople01@aol.com

All members of N4C are cordially invited to attend "Spring Break", a two day social and learning opportunity put on by the Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs. This will be the 31st year and will be held on Saturday March 12 and Sunday March 13, in a suburb of St. Paul. The two day event includes speakers, lunch on Saturday, raptors from the University of Minnesota, and two world-renowned speakers, Jeff Morgan and Ian Plant. The cost is only \$65.00.

The council consists of 23 member clubs from the greater metropolitan area of Minneapolis and St. Paul. Several of those clubs are also members of N4C, so plan on visiting Minnesota this spring and connecting with some of your local N4C friends!

This photo, by Michael Waterman, is one taken of the raptors at the 2015 Spring Break event and earned an N4C Honorable Mention in April 2015.



JANUARY



Contest Results

B & W Pictorial Prints

- 1st Snarly - Michael Greiner, Sioux City
- 2nd The Ravages of Time - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- 3rd Foggy Woods - Greg Punelli, Des Moines
- HM Pond Scum - Doug Conrad, Sioux City
- HM Portland Head Light Sunrise - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
- HM Marshall Point Light - Michael Walsh, Sioux City

27 entries from 9 clubs. Judging Club: Iowa City. Chair: Larry Luebbert. Judges: Tom Ward, Mark Gromko, Wilford Yoder. Comments: Some mounts were coming apart; tight fitting sleeves greatly increase handling problems. All entries arrived in good time!

Color Prints

- 1st Green Hermit - Anne S Olson, Great River
- 2nd School House on Prairie - Dave Horner, Topeka
- 3rd The Best View of Paris - Nor Azhari, Iowa City
- HM Tannery Falls Munising MI - Michael Greiner, Sioux City
- HM Morning Serenity - Amirah Azhari, Iowa City
- HM Thunder Struck - Tim Smith, Sioux City

56 entries from 11 clubs. Judging Club: Lidgerwood Camera Club. Chair: Sharon Frolek. Judges: Kelena Kannenberg, Dan Frolek, John Kannenberg.

Creative Prints

- 1st Moody Pond - Bob Rude, Iowa City
- 2nd Piston Guide on Old #1355 - Steve Paulson, Sioux City
- 3rd Study in Color - Terri Dermody, Des Moines
- HM Shattered View - Paul Grillo, Des Moines
- HM Raising Moon - Bob Rude, Iowa City
- HM 5 Leaves - Vernice Kingsbury, Sioux City

22 entries from 5 clubs. Judging Club: Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs. Chair: Kathy Rohrig. Judges: Debbie Jensen, Debbie Bates, Kim Walter. Comments: Excellent group of photos - very interesting to judge.

Digital B&W

- 1st Team Work - Doug Conrad, Sioux City
- 2nd Morning in the Barn - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- 3rd White Sands Morning 2 - BW - Nikki McDonald, Omaha
- HM Pedaling Hard - Tom Ward, Iowa City
- HM Machu Pichu, Peru - Bob Muschewske, Saint Paul
- HM Nighttime Reading - Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Winter Wonderland - Ron Tigges, Dubuque
- HM Announcement - Jonathan Dyess, Duluth-Superior
- HM Mansion Elegance - Ken Cheung, Minnesota Valley
- HM Frosted Post - April Oedekoren, Black Hills
- HM Flat Iron Building - Bob Wright, Topeka
- HM Just Love Me - April Oedekoren, Black Hills

116 entries from 21 clubs. Judging Club: Des Moines Camera Club. Chair: Diane Darnielle. Judges: Dwight Tomes, Paul Grillo, Susan Christensen. Comments: A very good contest with a lot of images that were well composed, sharp, and exhibited tonal range of black to white. It was a very diverse group of subjects. The top six images were outstanding and received a 45 score. DMCC has provided comments on all of the images, as we feel it is important to provide feedback.

JANUARY



Contest Results

Digital Creative

- 1st I Found the Light - Kathleen Wolleat, Duluth-Superior
- 2nd Cathedral Jump - Michael Huber, Western Wisconsin
- 3rd Ancient Wings - Allen Kurth, Omaha
- HM Take the Long Way Home - Sondra Barry, Wichita Area
- HM Goose Feathers - Larry Headley, Omaha
- HM Swirl - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- HM Butterfly Flower - Patricia Konyha, Wichita Area
- HM Flower Wars - The Buds Awaken - Diane Lowry, Des Moines
- HM Watching the Lunar Eclipse - Ron Balthazor, Sioux Falls
- HM Walter There's a Swimmer in My Tea - PK Mattingly, Wichita Area
- HM Gerhy Blood Moon - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
- HM Ghost Farm - Gordon Court, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Pretty in Pink - Paul Bellinger, Omaha

112 entries from 23 clubs. Judging Club: Minnesota Valley Photography Club. Chair: Andrew L. Zumbach. Judges: Ken Chung, Ken Hassefeldt, Daniel Vande Vusse.

Digital Journalism

- 1st Close Call - Greg Punelli, Des Moines
- 2nd Got Ya - Don Thun, Topeka
- 3rd I Got It! - Tom Ward, Iowa City
- HM House Afire - Terry Butler, Western Wisconsin
- HM Land of Giants - John Larson, Shutterbug
- HM Silly Nurses Graduate - Paul Bellinger, Omaha
- HM Memorial Day - Mary Dreckman, Iowa City
- HM Flyin' High - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
- HM Handling Pork Chop! - Paul Grillo, Des Moines
- HM Mount Rushmore Fireworks - Harlan Humphrey, Black Hills

77 entries from 19 clubs. Judging Club: Sioux City Camera Club. Chair: Carl Hardy. Judges: Carol Blsir, Nick Masuen, Carl Hardy. Comments: The journalistic story telling shown in the winners, merit winners and scores 12 or above was outstanding. They told a story which could be used to tell a story. However, the remaining digital slides were inferior and did not tell a story at all based upon the our comments. .

Nature Prints

- 1st King Cobra - Doug Conrad, Sioux City
- 2nd I Stand Alone - Linda Eastman, Central Iowa
- 3rd Gramps - Paul Grillo, Des Moines
- HM Cardinal - Ed Siems, Central Iowa
- HM Stilt Sandpiper - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- HM ND Badlands Wild Horses - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines

27 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Iowa City. Chair: Larry Luebbert. Judges: Randy Moyer, Mark Gromko, Wilford Yoder. Comments: Tight Sleeves made for a lot of handling problems to judge out of sleeve. Top 3 winners were a challenge for judges. A lot of ties in the 3-40 range.

JANUARY



Contest Results

Digital Nature

- 1st Red-eyed Tree Frog - Sheldon Farwell, Great River
- 2nd Snow Fell Water Falls - Tim Beaulier, Duluth-Superior
- 3rd Bow River - Martha Farwell, Great River
- HM Fire Ball - Jonathan Dyess, Duluth-Superior
- HM Jenday Conure Parrot - Bill Williamson, Central Iowa
- HM Wild Red Columbine - Peggy Boike, Saint Paul
- HM Flamingo's Figure 8 - Markus Erk, Black Hills
- HM Winter in Yellowstone - Sandy Jorgenson, Sioux Falls
- HM Fairyland Morning - Bryce - Nikki McDonald, Omaha
- HM Lake Lida at Night - Paul Hagen, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM St. Louis River Roaring - Pat Boudreau, North Metro
- HM Cheetah Family - Cindy Carlsson, Saint Paul
- HM Burrowing Owl with Toad - Harlan Humphrey, Black Hills
- HM Courtship - Gerald Marella, Dubuque

132 entries from 23 clubs. Judging Club: Des Moines Camera Club. Chair: Diane Darnielle. Judges: Diane Lowry, Penny Adam, Dave Brown. Comments: This was a large contest with a large number of excellent images. The top images were sharp, well composed, and had impact. There was also a great variety of images. DMCC provided comments on all images, as we feel it is important to provide feedback to all who enter..

Digital Pictorial

- 1st Father Son Fist Pump - Kathleen Wolleat, Duluth-Superior
- 2nd Where's My Taxi - Joan Price, North Metro
- 3rd Cuba Man with Cigar - Sharon Jackson, Omaha
- HM Herbert Lake - Martha Farwell, Great River
- HM Cardinal in Flight - Lori Moilanen, Western Wisconsin
- HM Hot and Humid Daybreak - Katie Weisbecker, La Crosse Area
- HM Oil & Auroras - Bob Gillespie, Sioux City
- HM Naughty or Nice - Karen Galley, Sioux Falls
- HM Echoing Towers - Diane Lowry, Des Moines
- HM Milky Way Over Lake Superior - Angela Hoffman, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Early Morning Ride - Harlan Humphrey, Black Hills
- HM Misty Morning - Cara Pusateri, Dubuque
- HM Bucolic - Doug Heimstead, North Metro

128 entries from 25 clubs. Judging Club: Saint Paul Camera Club. Chair: Gene Schwope. Judges: Morris Gilde-meister, Herb Gustafson, Paul Rogne.

Travel Prints

- 1st Big Air - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
 - 2nd Getting Ready for Veteran's Day - Nor Azhari, Iowa City
 - 3rd A Buffalo Soldier - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- 17 entries from 5 clubs. Judging Club: Houghton Area. Chair: Lowell Stanley. Judges: Randy Greenwood, LeAnn Aiken, Clyde Lighty.

JANUARY



Contest Results

Digital Travel

- 1st Journey to the Darkest Skies - Nambia - Lori Moilanen, Western Wisconsin
- 2nd Foggy Entry Duluth, Minnesota - Jonathan Dyess, Duluth-Superior
- 3rd Place de La Concorde Fountain - Paris - Terry Butler, Western Wisconsin
- HM Bandon, Oregon Sunset - Diane Lowry, Des Moines
- HM Magnolia Gardens South Carolina - Tom Ling, Duluth-Superior
- HM Denali Peeking Out - Tammy Mortensen, Des Moines
- HM Moroccan Sahara Desert by Camel Caravan - Donald Tan, Wichita Area
- HM Tetons in Winter - Harlan Humphrey, Black Hills

98 entries from 22 clubs. Judging Club: Omaha Camera Club. Chair: Larry W. Headley. Judges: Mike Barber, Nikki McDonald, Paul Bellinger. Comments: [Awards were received by] 10 different clubs. Comments were made on each and every entry, with more time devoted to the lowest scores. Images with low scores had one or more of the following problems: no location in the title, over-processing, exposure, low impact or wrong category. Some great images entered would score better in Nature or Pictorial. The judges were looking for clean and crisp images of unique places that might be seen in a travel brochure. As one judge put it, " a good travel image must be dramatic enough to overcome the absence of the other senses." In other words, the photographer will smell, hear, feel and even taste the surroundings while taking the shot, but only the image shows up to the viewer. A good travel image will have a GREAT background with universal appeal to set off the subject.

Journalism Prints

- 1st Must Make 8 Seconds - Scott Thomson, Duluth-Superior
- 2nd Looking at a Mud Bath - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- 3rd The Last Taylor - Paul Grillo, Des Moines

10 entries from 5 clubs. Judging Club: Houghton Area. Chair: Lowell Stanley. Judges: Randy Greenwood, LeAnn Aiken, Clyde Leighty.

Postage on Competition Entries

Clubs sending packages and boxes of prints need to account for the small additional weight of new entry forms, award labels, ribbons, etc. in their return. In addition labeling small envelopes with "do not bend" puts them into the parcel post category - in one case this doubled the postage. In addition there was a postage increase on January 17th. Every club's returns for the B & W Pictorial and Nature Pictorial prints competition were short on postage today so every returned container will have the amount of additional postage as a label attached.

While a single club's shortage doesn't amount to much; averaged almost \$1 per club, the person sending ends up with a significant bill. I'll eat this expense as I don't have all the clubs emails - but this is the second year in a row where I've paid the shortage, that's not as bad as people being irritated that the line is tied up for almost a half hour. When I send our clubs prints I used to by 50 cents more return stamps than what is indicated. Recommend clubs raise that to at least one dollar for the large cartons.

Larry Luebbert

Competition Procedures in the Wichita Area Camera Club

The Wichita Area Camera Club (Wichita Ks) has a paying membership of about 60 members and an active membership of about 40 members. The Club meets once a month for about 2 hours in the evening (the December meeting is an awards banquet at a restaurant).

The Club has photo competition each month (except December). We have essentially eliminated prints and slides from the competition and have become an “all Digital” club. We currently offer a total of 8 categories for competition. Three categories are available each month. Each member is allowed to submit up to 4 images in each category and does so by uploading the images directly to the Club’s website at SmugMug (<http://wichitaareacameraclub.smugmug.com>), and by emailing a file list to the Competition VP. Image requirements are typical for digital images in competition. We have posted video and text tutorials about the entry process to the website at SmugMug.

Members are emailed reminders about this each month. The entry deadline is about 2 weeks prior to the meeting for that month. Three judges are selected from our membership for judging each month. Judges are given a week to judge and score the images. Our intent is that a member will only have to judge one time each year.

Each judge looks at the images at SmugMug from their home computer. We encourage judges to calibrate their home monitors and have developed a generic training program available on SmugMug on monitor calibration. Judges score each image in a range of 1 to 5 in each of 3 criteria: impact, technique and composition, using a score sheet which is a modified version of the spreadsheet developed by Ken Johnson for N4C competition. Judges' scores and comments are posted with the images on Smug Mug a few days before the scheduled meeting. Members are sent emails encouraging them to look at the images, scores and comments prior to the meeting where they are projected to a large screen with a calibrated projector. Judges are usually present at the meeting to answer questions about the scores given.

From 25% to 33% of the images submitted in each category are accepted (based on score) for entry in the year end competition. We try to recruit “outside” judges for the year end competition. Our judges are trained using a Judging Handbook which is a modified version of the handbook developed by the Chicago Area Camera Clubs Association. The Handbook is listed at our website at SmugMug: <https://wichitaareacameraclub.smugmug.com/Tutorials-Videos/Judging-Tutorials/Documents/Judging-Handbook/n-fqsMN/>

Chicago gave our Club permission to modify their handbook and to distribute it to our members. We have conducted live workshops on judging and now have an extensive video tutorial online covering the Handbook and other matters related to judging. We have gradually evolved our judging process from the one used previously where scoring was done live from projected images at the meeting by judges picked that night. Most members feel that the new process is a vast improvement over the old and allows for a more meaningful and thoughtful consideration of their images submitted for competition. Further, we believe that the new process brings about a more positive educational benefit from competition, which is one of the core goals of our Club.

Bruce Ward, Jim Boots & Dwight Corrin
January 2016
Wichita Area Camera Club
<http://www.WichitaAreaCameraClub.com>

N4C Entries in the 2016 PSA Council's Challenge

Once again, N4C will be well represented in the 2016 PSA Council's Challenge. Photographers from 14 N4C clubs will have their images from the 2015 N4C Annual Competition, sent to PSA, to compete with other Councils from around the world.

Digital Pictorial	N4C Club	Image Title
Shane Abbitt	Des Moines	Futball Flyer
Markus Erk	Black Hills	Three-Six-Nine
Dan Francis	Fargo - Moorehead	Home of the Universe
Paul Grillo	Des Moines	Oldsmobile Holiday
Michael Huber	Western Wisconsin	Basket Ballin
Chad Mertz	Fargo - Moorehead	Determination
Bob Rude	Iowa City	First Evening Snow
Mohammed Smadi	Fargo - Moorehead	Orange Fresh
Don Thun	Topeka	Motocross Daredevil Jump
David Zuhr	Black Hills	Once Upon a Time

Digital Monochrome	N4C Club	Image Title
Martha Farwell	Great River	Milkweed Pod
Karen Galley	Sioux Falls	Cheeky Monkeys
Morris Gildemeister	St. Paul	Viewpoint #1
Erica Harvey	Black Hills	Hey Boo Boo
Angela Hoffman	Fargo - Moorehead	Milwaukee Art Museum
Marilyn Lamoreux	Women's Color	Tuberrose
Don Loseke	La Crosse Area	Passing Train
Diane Lowry	Des Moines	Rocky Shores
Kristi Olson	La Crosse Area	Chain of Leaves
Herb Proudfit	Iowa City	Lipizzaner Study

Digital Nature	N4C Club	Image Title
Jim Boots	Wichita Area	Gannet in Flight
Terri Dermody	Des Moines	Taking a Break
Jo Eland	Iowa City	Grizzley 9396
Martha Farwell	Great River	I See You
Sheldon Farwell	Great River	One Flower - 2 Birds
Doug Heimstead	North Metro	Egrets
Mike Landwehr	Des Moines	Not On My Perch
Gerald Marella	Dubuque	Angry Bird
Bob Muschewske	St. Paul	Face to Face
Ron Tiggs	Dubuque	Witches Gulch Wisconsin

Good luck to everyone who had their image chosen. The winners of the 2016 Council's Challenge will be announced at Spring Brook, in 2017.

Gene Schwope
N4C, PSA Representative

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.

President: **Jo Eland** ElandPhoto@mchsi.com

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2nd Vice President: **Bob Lahti**

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WANTED:

Your photos, stories, hints and tips for the 2015-16 N4C News Bulletin. Please send them to Editor Sharla Glick - edit@n4c.us

Let us know what's going on in your neck of the woods!

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