



The North Central Camera Club Council News Bulletin

"Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends"

Volume 52 No. 7

WWW.N4C.US

May, 2017

President's Message

Hello everyone in N4C land. By the time this comes out the Spring mini convention is in the rear view mirror. I hope everyone had a great time. This Summer I plan to mine past minutes looking for changes that didn't get communicated to the handbook editor. I almost got out of working after all, because my mother broke her wrist this week, but I got her grandson to help her while I'm working. In the meantime April showers have indeed produced May flowers. The early Spring ephemerals are done already. Right now my trout lilies are in full bloom. My trilliums will probably open this week. I hope everyone has been able to do some macro work with their flowers. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone this September. It sounds like Black Hills is putting together a great convention. Agenda items for the annual meeting may be sent to me at the president's email. Please be open to hosting a convention, or this will be the last one. It doesn't have to be a big extravaganza or scenic venue.



Linda Rutherford
lruther1@comcast.net

A great big thank you to Vice President, Bob Lahti from the Duluth-Superior Club for planning the programs for this year's event and conducting the business meeting. And don't forget the fantastic job by Larry and Delores Meister for handling all the arrangements down to leaving some bread crumbs so we didn't get lost getting back to the highway on the way home.

We had an excellent variety of speakers, breakout session presentations, and photo shoots both inside and outside at night. Excellent meals and snacks as you know if you have ever attended the Spring outing. You can see we are all quite happy in the group photo taken after our pork loin dinner with apple pie on Saturday evening. Thanks to Marty Welter, one of our speakers, for shooting the photo this year.

The official name to replace "Springbrook" is the "N4C Spring Mini-Convention".

It will be held again next year May 4-6, 2018 at the same location. St. Thomas More Center near Panora, IA.

Ken Johnson

N4C Service Award

The service award is presented to a candidate for his or her outstanding contribution of service to N4C along with service to their own camera club and photographic service to their local community.

Any person who is a member of a camera club in good standing with the Council, may act as a proposer for a candidate(s).

The candidate must also be a member of a club in good standing with the Council.

For more information go to Section D-1 Awards and Recognition Service Award Requirements in the N4C Directory.

Applications are available from the chair of the Service Awards Committee

For more information contact:
Wilford Yoder – weyoder820@msn.com;
Chair of the Service Awards Committee.
Mailing address – Wilford Yoder, 820 Talwrn Ct, Iowa City, IA 52246

Gloria Johnson, Steve Thompson and Wilford Yoder are the three members of the Service Awards Committee.

Wilford Yoder

Everyone Can Look at N4C on Facebook

I learned at the N4C Spring Mini-Convention that many members don't realize they can look at our Facebook page even if they don't have their own Facebook account. N4C's is a viewable public website.

Facebook members (that have their own Facebook page) have the advantage of "Following" and "Receiving Notifications" of new N4C posts. Among other news from members, you will be alerted when new information is added to the N4C website, such as uploaded web galleries of the monthly digital contests and new issues of the *N4C News Bulletin*. Keep abreast of what is happening.

From the N4C web page <http://n4c.us/> click on this logo:



<https://www.facebook.com/TheNorthCentralCameraClubCouncil.n4c>

2017 N4C Photography Convention. Likewise, our hosts, the Black Hills Photography Club have a Facebook page for the Rapid City, South Dakota September 21-24, 2017 convention. The convention theme is: Presidents, Pixels, and Pines. The Facebook page is:

<https://www.facebook.com/PresidentsPixelsandPines/>

This is worth scrolling through for all kinds of information about the convention, speakers, and area attractions. Follow this page if you are on Facebook. Links on <http://n4c.us/> or <http://blackhillsp photographyclub.com/> will get have the registration form and program information.

Enjoy photography, whether or not it is yours!
Ken Johnson

Best of the N4C Winners Roundup for the Fall Rapid City Convention

First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention winners in all categories of the 2016-17 monthly contests are eligible to be judged in the Annual Best of N4C Contest. Merit award winners are NOT eligible.

A preliminary list of all winners through April has been sent to clubs so they can begin rounding up prints and slides.

Black Hills Photography Club is hosting the N4C Convention in Rapid City, SD and has established the **deadline for Prints and 2x2 Slides**.

Entries must be received by 5:00 PM Monday, July 10, 2017 if hand delivered, or **postmarked not later than July 5, 2017 if mailed**.

Eligible **DIGITAL entries** have been saved each month and **do NOT need to be sent**.

IMPORTANT: All prints MUST BE MOUNTED (on a stiff backing) for this annual contest. For loose prints they must be mounted on a stiff backing for year end display at the convention. Secure the loose print to the stiff backing by either double sided tape-across the top edge of the print or hinge them along the top edge so the original print tag can be seen.

The winning PRINTS and 2x2 SLIDE entries are to be mailed to:
(NO DIGITAL ones and NO PANORAMA PRINTS)

Black Hills Photography Club
Jacqueline Rinehart
316 Bleeker St
Lead, SD 57754
Email: jdrinehartart@gmail.com
Phone: 605 591 2943

A list will be sent out in early June by Diane Darnielle of all the qualifying entries from the September through May contests.

Contact Ken Johnson at email address web@n4c.us, 515-964-1944 if someone in your club has not seen a list by June 15 and think you should have eligible entries.

All prints received for this annual contest will be displayed in a convention salon and slides will be projected for those attending the convention.

Awards for the Best of the Best will be announced and presented at the N4C Convention banquet on Saturday, September 23rd along with Photographer of the Year, Clubs of the Year, and other awards.

Thanks to all the entrants, clubs, judges, and contest chairs.

Ken Johnson kandsjohnson@mchsi.com
Diane Darnielle dldarnie@aol.com



61st Annual North Central Camera Club Council (N4C)
Photography Convention
Rapid City, South Dakota



September 21 - September 24, 2017

Hosted by the Black Hills Photography Club



ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER PERSON -- PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Best Phone Contact #: _____

Email: _____

N4C Club Affiliation or Photography/Camera Club you are a member of (if applicable):

- One Registration Form per attendee.
- Complete Registration Form ([ALL 4 pages](#)) manually or electronically using Adobe Acrobat Reader.
- The registration amount of \$159/person includes BOTH Friday and Saturday night banquet meals and keynote speakers. (see full event and field trip schedule on page 4)
- **Student** registration amount of \$129/person includes BOTH Friday and Saturday night banquet meals and keynote speakers. (see full event and field trip schedule on page 4) *Students must be full-time and able to show Student ID if asked.*
- Field Trips may have additional costs. (see page 2 of the Registration Form and refer to the Field Trip link on the website for additional information)
- Please watch for current updates and availability on the registration website, **www.blackhillsp photographyclub.com**.
- Some classes, workshops and field trips are limited to a certain number of participants. Please register early!
- **Registration deadline is August 31, 2017.**
- **NO refunds on registrations.**
- To contact the Black Hills Photography Club with any questions, please email us at **blackhillsn4c2017@gmail.com**.

Convention Location and Hotel:



Holiday Inn Rapid City-Rushmore Plaza
505 N. 5th Street
Rapid City, SD 57701

Go to www.holidayinn.com/rap-rushmore, click on RESERVATIONS, enter dates and Group Booking Code PC8.

Or, contact the hotel directly at (605) 348-4000 or toll-free at (844) 516-6415.

Group room block will be held until August 24, 2017. Reservation requests received after this cut-off date will be accepted and confirmed upon availability at the hotel's current rate.

Room per night cost is \$124.00 plus tax, if reserved before August 24, 2017.

Internal Use Only: Registration received on: _____ Check #: _____ Amount: _____ Registration #: _____

Field Trip Additional Costs:

This list ONLY includes the field trips with additional costs that need to be INCLUDED with your Registration Form and payment. Please refer to page 4 for the complete schedule and list of all field trips.

Chapel in the Hills (Stavkirke) & Birds of Prey	Friday, September 22nd, 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm	\$25.00
Bear Butte & Native American Dancing	Saturday, September 23rd, 5:00 am - 11:00 am	\$20.00
Art Alley & Downtown Street Photography	Saturday, September 23rd, 1:30pm	\$5.00

****Please note to car pool for all field trips.****

****Please refer to the Field Trip link on the website for information regarding field trips and additional costs. There will be additional costs for carpooling (i.e. gas) and park entry fees when needed, which will be paid at the time of the field trip.****

Sack Lunch for Friday’s Custer State Park & Wind Cave NP Field Trip:

A sack lunch is available to purchase with your registration for FRIDAY’s Field Trip ONLY. We are not able to provide sack lunches to those at the convention facility due to hotel restrictions.

Sack lunch will include: sandwich, chips, fruit, cookie and drink Cost: \$8.00

Banquet Meal Selection:

The registration price includes BOTH Friday and Saturday banquet meals. Breakfast and lunch are not included in the registration price. There is a restaurant in the hotel and several close by.

- Herb Roasted Chicken Breast: A moist chicken breast tossed in garlic and fresh herbs then roasted and placed atop a garlic cream sauce.
- Honey Cured Pork Loin: Slow roasted pork loin with a cracked mustard cream sauce, served with a calico wild rice blend and seasonal vegetables.
- Roast Beef Haystacks: Slow roasted top round thinly sliced and topped with a Cabernet mushroom demi.

Friday: (choose one)

Saturday: (choose one)

Herb Roasted Chicken Breast

Honey Cured Pork Loin

Roast Beef Haystacks

If you have any special dietary needs, please include that here and we will contact you before the start of the convention.

You may also purchase additional banquet meals for a spouse and/or family member(s) traveling with you, but not registered for the convention. Please include their name, banquet night (Friday and/or Saturday), and meal selection. Cost is an additional \$30.00/meal.

Convention Registration (banquet meals included): \$159.00

Student Discount (banquet meals included): \$129.00

Additional banquet meals for spouse/family member (refer to page 2 for restrictions):

Friday Banquet _____ x \$30.00/meal _____

Saturday Banquet _____ x \$30.00/meal _____

Field Trips:

Chapel in the Hills (Stavkirke) & Birds of Prey \$25.00 _____

Bear Butte & Native American Dancing \$20.00 _____

Art Alley & Downtown Street Photography \$5.00 _____

Sack Lunch for Custer SP & Wind Cave NP Field Trip: \$8.00 _____

Total to remit with Registration Form _____

Please mail the completed Registration Form (ALL 4 pages indicating event selections, field trips and meals) with a check in the amount above payable to:

Black Hills Photography Club
P.O. Box 952
Rapid City, SD 57709

****Registrations must be postmarked by August 31, 2017****

I will also be accompanied by _____ number of people who will not be attending the convention, but who will be interested in area events/attractions during this time period.

***** Please retain a copy of the completed Registration Form for your records. *****

Disclaimer: The North Central Camera Club Council (N4C) and the Black Hills Photography Club and their members, including any public and private property owners associated with the convention, are not liable for any personal injury, equipment damage, loss, or theft sustained by participating individuals.

61st Annual N4C Photography Convention - Presidents, Pixels & Pines

Thursday, September 21, 2017

Time	Black Hills Ballroom	Atrium	Room 1	Room 2	Dakota Ballroom	Off-Site Field Trip
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm		Registration				Badlands National Park 12:30 pm - 5:30 pm (Limit 30)
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Welcome Program with Chad Coppess: Welcome to Photography Week in South Dakota					
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm		Dessert Social				

Friday, September 22, 2017

Time	Black Hills Ballroom	Atrium	Room 1	Room 2	Dakota Ballroom	Off-Site Field Trip
7:00 am - 8:00 am		Registration				Custer State Park & Wind Cave NP 5:00 am - 1:00 pm (Limit 30)
8:15 am - 9:45 am			Ted Ayers: Basic Photography Elements	PPA Johnny Sundby & Russell Lloyd Jensen: Portrait Photography 101 > The Basics and Introduction (Part 1)	Stan Tekiela: Uncommon Facts About Common Birds	
10:00 am - 11:30 am			Photo Critique Sessions First-come, First-served	PPA Johnny Sundby & Russell Lloyd Jensen: Portrait Photography 101 > What You Thought You Knew (Part 2)	Bruce & Tass: China:Land of the Dragon	
11:30 am - 1:30 pm		Vendors Open	Free Time - Lunch on your own			
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm			Bonny Fleming: Altered Reality	PPA Johnny Sundby & Russell Lloyd Jensen: Portrait Photography 101 > Hands-on Shooting (must have taken Part 2)	Mike Moats: Creating a Successful Image	Chapel in the Hills (Stavkirke) & Birds of Prey 1:30 pm - 5:00 pm (Limit 30)
3:15 pm - 4:45 pm			Tom Simmons: Drones and Photography		Paul Horsted: The Black Hills Yesterday & Today	
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm		Vendors Open				
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm					Banquet - Jeff Vanuga: Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks - A Sense of Place	

Saturday, September 23, 2017

Time	Black Hills Ballroom	Atrium	Room 1	Room 2	Dakota Ballroom	Off-Site Field Trip
7:00 am - 8:00 am		Registration				Bear Butte & Native American Dancing 5:00 am - 11:00 am (Limit 30)
8:15 am - 9:45 am			Mike Wolforth: Advanced Photoshop	Steve Babbitt: A Conversation on Copyright	Eden Bhatta: Astrophotography	WORKSHOP: Sylvan Lake with Jeff Vanuga 5:00 am - 10:00 am (Limit 15)
10:00 am - 11:30 am			Stan Tekiela: Bears	Cody Lere: A Start to Finish on Techniques to Push Your Camera's Limits	Rick Sammon: Creative Visualization for Photographers	
11:30 am - 1:30 pm		Vendors Open	Free Time - Lunch on your own			
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm			Matt Bunkers: Storm Chasing, Photography and Safety: Training for the Non-Meteorologist	Paul Horsted: Our National Parks Yesterday & Today	Mike Moats: Macro Mini Boot Camp (Limit 40)	Art Alley & Downtown Street Photography 1:30 pm - (on your own time) (Limit 30)
3:15 pm - 4:45 pm			Photo Critique Sessions First-come, First-served	N4C Board Meeting		
4:30 pm - 6:30 pm		Vendors Open				
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm					Banquet - Rick Sammon: Get Motivated/Stay Motivated	

Sunday, September 24, 2017

Time	Black Hills Ballroom	Atrium	Room 1	Room 2	Dakota Ballroom	Off-Site Field Trip
						Mount Rushmore at Sunrise 5:00 am - 10:00 am



MINUTES OF THE N4C EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, MAY 5, 2017

The annual Executive Board Meeting of the North Central Camera Club Council was called to order at 4:15 p.m. Friday, May 5, 2017, by First Vice President Bob Lahti, in the meeting room of St. Thomas More Center in Panora, Iowa. Eight Board members were present: First Vice President, Bob Lahti; Second Vice President, Debbie Bates; Secretary, Pat Schwope; Treasurer, Lynda Richards; Director #1, Mark Gromko; Director #4, Doug Conrad; Director #5, Paul Grillo; and Director #6, Greg Hوجلund. Absent were: President, Linda Rutherford; Director #2, John Larson; and Director #3, Steve Thompson.

Bob Lahti welcomed everyone, saying that President Linda Rutherford sends her sincerest apologies and good wishes. She is sorry that she cannot be here, due to her work schedule and the change in date of this meeting.

Larry and Delores Meister were introduced, along with Ken Johnson and Dwight Tomes. All were given a round of applause for all their hard work. Larry explained that Paul Belden, the cook from Springbrook, and Joe Connolly, the interim director of St. Thomas More, made it possible for us to move here. The fee schedule here is somewhat different from Springbrook. We cannot buy into that; we need a fixed sum to be within our budget. The agreement, should we vote to move here, will be: \$550 per day for the first 65 people; \$500 per day for 50 people or less. This will be within our budget. There will be a short Executive Board Meeting on Sunday morning to approve moving to St. Thomas More Center. Paul Belden said if we have more people than we thought we would, he will make up for it in the food. The date for 2018 will be the first weekend in May: the 4th, 5th, and 6th.

Secretary Pat Schwope moved that the reading of the Minutes of the September 30, 2016 N4C Annual Business Meeting be dispensed with, since all Officers, Directors, and Chairmen had received a copy. The motion was seconded by Debbie Bates, and carried.

The Secretary reported that ballots and biographies for 2017-2018 N4C Officers and Directors were mailed to 38 club Presidents on March 16, 2017. 25 ballots were returned. 24 ballots were unanimous for the entire slate. One club cast zero votes for Directors #1, #3, and #5. It was suggested that we might look at the language which assigns the number of votes for each club.

The newly elected Board will take office following dinner on Saturday, September 23, 2017:

President: Robert Lahti - Duluth-Superior Camera Club
First Vice President: Debbie Bates - Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs
Second Vice President: Mark Gromko - Iowa City Camera Club
Secretary: Pat Schwope - St. Paul Camera Club
Treasurer: Lynda Richards - Des Moines Camera Club
Director #1: John Larson - Shutterbugs Camera Club
Director #2: Steve Thompson - Sioux Falls Camera Club
Director #3: Doug Conrad - Sioux City Camera Club
Director #4: Paul Grillo - Des Moines Camera Club
Director #5: Greg Hوجلund - Topeka Camera Club
Director #6: Terry Butler - Western Wisconsin Photography Club

Treasurer Lynda Richards gave the Financial Report from August 1, 2016 through May 3, 2017. Taxes have been filed. Checking Balance On Hand July 31, 2016: \$3,387.69. Total Income: \$7,838.92. Total Expenses: \$2,090.22. Checking Balance On Hand May 3, 2017: \$3,136.39. (A lot of our checking balance will go away, due to the St. Thomas More expenses.) Certificate of Deposit: \$8,104.59. (To be renewed on May 15, 2017, hopefully at a bit better rate.) Net Balance: \$17,240.98. *A motion to accept the Financial Report as read was made by Mark Gromko, seconded by Greg Hوجلund, and carried.* The Treasurer also requested and received permission to destroy financial records prior to 2008.

Agenda Items: A proposed rule change by Larry Headley of Omaha, which due to time constraints the Board was unable to discuss or vote on at the Fargo Convention, was thoroughly discussed. Mr. Headley was not in attendance in Fargo or at today's meeting. According to Diane Darnielle, the committee to study this proposal, of which she was a member, never met.

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A motion to accept Mr. Headley's proposed rule change Alternative 1: "Remove Section 25.b on page F-4 in its entirety and replace it with "Honorable Mention ribbons shall be presented to no more than the top 10% of all entries. For example, there must be at least 20 entries to award two Honorable Mention ribbons, 30 entries for three Honorable Mention ribbons, etc." was made by Mark Gromko, and seconded by Doug Conrad. Following a lengthy discussion, the motion was defeated, 5 to 2.

Print entries are down. Do we want to encourage people to print more? Mark Gromko and Doug Conrad would like to request that the Board take up the postage issue for print contest entries as a separate issue. Print size is what makes the price of postage go higher. But since 8 x 10 prints cannot compete with 16 x 20 prints, we need to level the playing field. The aspect ratio of 11 x 14 is more nearly the aspect ratio of a sensor. Diane Darnielle would like to propose that a questionnaire be sent to all of the clubs which do digital only, to ask them if a different size of prints for N4C contests would encourage them to enter. Acting President Lahti said, "I'm hearing something that needs to be talked about a whole lot more."

The answer to the question: "Are smartphone images acceptable for N4C contests?" is yes.

Gene Schwope reported on the Club Communications Contest. "The N4C Bulletin Contest was traditionally run by Director #1. In 2014, Carl Hardy and I asked to take over, and resuscitate, the N4C Bulletin Contest, because the Board was going to eliminate it due to lack of participation. In 2014 there was only one entry. We thought a Club Communications Contest was a great thing. The agreement was that we would add a competition for Websites, and run it for a period of two years. That was extended to three years because of the death of Jo Eland, and the desire for a smooth transition back to Director #1. Would you believe that all the Communications Contest needed was more communication? The Editors and Webmasters need to be encouraged and enticed into entering. This year we had 9 Bulletins and 13 Websites entered. That is 75% of the N4C clubs that have a Bulletin or a Website. We now call upon the Board to return the Club Communications Contest to the person who will become Director #1 at the Black Hills Convention. We will turn over all of our records to the new Director #1."

Ed Siems has not been able to find a club willing to host the 2018 N4C Convention, but he would like to see Sioux City do it again. Doug Conrad said that he would be willing to bring the subject up again with his club, and will get in touch with Ed Siems.

The new file size, 1920, which was approved at the Fargo Convention, was discussed. This will take effect with the September 2017 digital contests. (Some 1920 images were disqualified because the makers did not wait until September 2017.) The 500 KB size will be kept. This will be in the rules in the new Handbook/Directory. Ken Johnson said that 1920 does not require a different projector. Dwight Tomes said that the uses are more flexible with 1920.

Over the summer, Linda Rutherford will go through all of the Minutes for the past 10 years, to make sure that all changes voted on will be made in the N4C Handbook/Directory.

On Sunday morning, the Board will vote yes or no on entering into a contract with St. Thomas More Center for May 4, 5, and 6, 2018. They are holding the date for us -- we are supposed to let them know next week.

Streamlining the Convention Manual did not get done. It will be worked on.

A motion to put John Larson's Motion #1 Travel Photography, and Motion #2 Judging For All Contest Categories, on hold until we have an opportunity to discuss them at Convention, and to rewrite John Larson's Motion #2, was made by Debbie Bates, seconded by Paul Grillo, and carried.

Linda Rutherford will be requested to ask Sharla Glick to print the Board Meeting Minutes in the N4C Bulletin.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Schwope
Secretary



SHARING TOPICS MEETING, MAY 6, 2017

1. How does your club attract new members?

We learn from teams who do better than we do. If your team is going to get better, you play against teams that are better than you. They teach you what you need to learn to improve.

Clubs are getting older and smaller. Duluth has tried to incorporate a club Facebook account, and that has gotten a few people. They have an active website as well.

Western Wisconsin built up its website. Their small town newspaper prints articles and photos that the club submits. The club held a free Photography 101 class at the public library, and they have gotten a lot of members that way. They also quit discounting dues: if you make it too cheap, people value it less.

Dues range from \$25, 30, 35, 40, 50. Special rates for husband and wife. Special rates for family -- teenagers and grandchildren.

Clubs can get a lot of retired people, and people who have received a digital camera for Christmas.

Sioux City has a partnership with the local art center. Each year the art center selects a topic, and the Sioux City club exhibits their photographs of that topic. In another location, there is a children's gallery, where club photos are exhibited annually. The club has also given a couple of drone photography events, inviting the public in to see. Club meetings are listed in the local newspaper, and special events are given free publicity on the local TV station. Shoot a video of special events, make a movie, and put it on YouTube.

In Des Moines, Ray Andrews kept the club from dying. He got a generation of leadership involved in the club to start growing. Presidents leave exhausted. They have a very large Board, 15 members, responsible for dividing the tasks that need to be done. They reach out and ask people to help. Somebody has to host the meeting every month. They meet four times a month: three club meetings, and one Board meeting. They spread their tasks around, and got a new generation of photographers active and working. Their members are always active in the State Fair Photo Contest. You need to find something for the new people to do, and keep them interested. A lot of the younger members saw our pictures on Facebook. We do photo walks, and have speakers and an activities coordinator. That has worked out very well.

Des Moines judges their own club contests -- six people serve as judges every month. All entries are loaded on Smug Mug. They learn how to judge, how to use TCI. Once they start judging, their photography improves a little bit too. Entrants can observe judging of their pictures during the club meeting. The club has Novice, Advanced, and Master categories. Their first meeting of the month is an outside speaker, often a professional photographer, who is paid \$50. (Club dues are \$50.) This year, a lot more free speakers have been used.

Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs has hands-on programs. They post pictures on a Facebook page, and pull up information from other clubs.

St. Paul had 17 new members join in the past year: six from the Internet, eight from word of mouth / recommendations from current members, one through PSA, one from a web search, one from the SPCC website, and none from camera stores.

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2. What does your club do to be involved in your community?

Des Moines members get involved and volunteer for charitable events, such as the Walk for the March of Dimes. They also get involved with galleries, libraries, and the university.

Topeka club sponsors and judges a photo contest for the Kansas Lawn and Garden Show, after which photos are displayed. They try to have someone there on site, with publicity materials, so they can publicize their club. Every year after this show, they usually will get three or four new members.

Duluth seeks out fundraising events, to ask if they need volunteer photographers; for example, the Lupus Walk.

Minnesota Valley: Five years ago, the city of Eagan asked our club if we wanted to take pictures for the city, so we negotiated with them. Our partnership is: we go to all different events they have and take photos to give to them to use on their Facebook page and in advertising brochures, and in turn, once a month, we get a meeting space free of charge. The community theater has asked our club to take pictures. And now the city of Eagan has actually made a website for us; we can go online and hit our volunteer button so they know who's coming. They made vests for us, because one of the things we were uncomfortable doing was having to go up to the families and ask if we could take pictures of their children, and get a signed release. The vests say "City of Eagan Volunteer Photographer." And now the families are happy, because they want their kids' pictures in the paper.

LaCrosse got involved with the Parks and Recreation Department, and we get two meetings a month for nine months, totally free of charge, and a discount on shelter rental for our summer picnic and our Christmas party. We've gotten involved with the Kickapoo Valley Preserve for a couple of events there -- 60 miles from LaCrosse. We have done a lot as a club for 19 years for the Special Olympics. We do a lot for the community. Recently, we have started taking senior pictures for low income kids. We set up a Saturday and they show up. We give them the prints and they can turn in their selection to the Yearbook.

Another club does the same thing, only the low income kids are suggested by the school.

St. Paul: For a number of years, our club put on a Photography Merit Badge program for the Boy Scouts. There were seven or eight topics to cover, and we had seven or eight people to instruct the boys. They would have a couple of weeks to shoot images. They'd come back and we'd critique their work. It was extremely popular.

Audience member: Do any clubs reach out to any home school organizations in your community? Look into this; often they are looking for mentors. They could be grade school or high school. You can come during the daytime -
- teach a class, or mentor.

3. What do you suggest about how to improve the judging of N4C contests?

Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs: Inviting the rest of the club to the N4C judgments helps the members improve their own photography.

Des Moines: The comments really help. In digital judging, explain how they can improve the picture, without insulting them. Be very thorough with your description. Be very positive. Tell them why they need to crop left: give them a reason. Be courteous, but help them understand why. Teach them, don't spank them.

One club remarked that judges do not review the criteria. Clubs should be encouraged to review the TCI with their judges. Tell the judges what differentiates the categories. Otherwise people have no idea what they did wrong.

Just make sure, if you are giving all 2's, to tell people why. They have no idea what they have done wrong.

Duluth: Don't give 1's.

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Central Iowa: About the judging not being consistent: I would like to see more direction coming from N4C. Could we have something on our website like John Larson's presentation today? One on Technique. One on Composition. One on Interest. Use the website and Facebook.

Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs: We need something to show at our clubs about how to judge. What is a 5, a 4, a 3, a 2, etc. John Larson had a presentation on this.

Great River: My club is small, but three times a year you get a chance to see other people's work, and to watch people judge. That is a real learning experience.

St. Paul: We do something in the Twin Cities Council of Camera Clubs that would be a little difficult for N4C, because you are more spread out, but we put on a judging school. An eight week class to teach people how to judge. They have to learn to stand on their feet and explain, and defend themselves, and tell why they gave the score that they did. The biggest problem we have is when judges forget what the topic is, and pick the picture they like. And nothing will tick camera club people off more than when they follow the rules, turn in a picture that fits the topic, and then have a Photo-Travel image come in and beat everybody out. That's the kind of thing we try to deal with in the judging school. Ken Johnson has a wonderful slide set on TCI that comes out with the software for judging every month. We project that at the judging. Show that -- it helps the judges. The worst thing is when the judges are looking for the best picture they ever saw. Sorry; Ansel Adams did not enter this month. The judges' job is to rank the images they are given -- not to look for the best pictures that were ever taken. So it's not hard to get scores up in the 40's -- as a judge, if you want to be sure you will see the picture again, you have to give it a 5.

Des Moines: Does everybody have a dry run? That's important.

Iowa City: Anybody in our audience can ask the judge, "What did you see in that picture, compared to such and such?" When you have a judge who has to defend that, it's a learning experience, because we're all looking at something differently. Maybe the judge didn't see something that somebody in the audience did see.

Question from the audience: What are the criteria for being a judge? A new member will be intimidated immediately once they see that everybody has a lot of experience -- well, I'm not even in the ballpark -- there's so much competition, I might as well go home. That's what I think is happening.

Iowa City: Our club does not have any in-club competition.

Guest Speaker: The subjectivity of judging person to person is never going to be solved.

What suggestions does your club have about improving N4C?

Take all of these ideas, and try to improve the communications.

Many in the audience were not aware that N4C has a Facebook page.

Networking at the Spring Mini-Convention and at the Annual Convention is one way to receive the best new information.

To show the value of N4C to the clubs that may not be using it as much as they could: line up the best photography websites that have videos, and send out a monthly tip on here's a good program on the internet that you don't have to do yourself. That would be a good value to the clubs.

Notes taken by Pat Schwope
Secretary



MINUTES OF THE N4C EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING, MAY 7, 2017

An additional Executive Board Meeting of the North Central Camera Club Council was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, May 7, 2017, by First Vice President Bob Lahti, in the meeting room of St. Thomas More Center, Panora, Iowa.

Present were: First Vice President Bob Lahti; Second Vice President Debbie Bates; Secretary Pat Schwope; Director #1 Mark Gromko; Director #4 Doug Conrad; Director #5 Paul Grillo; and Director #6 Greg Hoglund.

Absent were: President Linda Rutherford; Treasurer Lynda Richards; Director #2 John Larson; Director #3 Steve Thompson.

A motion to enter into a contract with St. Thomas More Center for next year's meeting was made by Mark Gromko, seconded by Greg Hoglund, and carried.

A motion to purchase a projector screen from the Central Iowa Camera Club, so that we have it for all future meetings, was made by Paul Grillo, seconded by Mark Gromko, and carried. Dwight Tomes will be in charge of the purchase.

A motion to change the name of this meeting to N4C Spring Camp-In was made by Greg Hoglund and seconded by Mark Gromko. Following discussion, a friendly amendment was made by Doug Conrad, and seconded by Greg Hoglund, to change the name to N4C Spring Mini-Convention. The amended motion was carried.

Dwight Tomes pointed out that the St. Thomas More facility has exceptional wi-fi. This technology would allow us to use Skype to feature a remote speaker. This would be potentially less expensive than actually having a speaker who was physically present, and could enable us to modify our schedule to allow time for a one-hour presentation by a really well known headline speaker.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Schwope
Secretary





APRIL

Contest Results

2 x 2 Slides

- 1st Cougar on Rocks - SuAnn Tichy, Cedar Rapids
- 2nd Superior Sculpture - Morris Gildemeister, Saint Paul
- 3rd Hawk - Bob Rude, Iowa City
- HM Glass of Light - Bob Rude, Iowa City
- HM Irish Window - Steve Kobs, Saint Paul
- HM Twisty Turney Road - Pat Schwope, Saint Paul

36 entries from 6 clubs. Judging Club: Kuntemeier Kamera Club. Chair: JoAnn Kuntemeier. Judges: Carrie Berge, Judy Smith, Karen Caswell.

B & W Pictorial Prints

- 1st Naptime - Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead
- 2nd Superior Shore Line - Paul Hagen, Fargo-Moorhead
- 3rd Biking in Rome - Shane Monahan, Sioux City
- HM Mt. Moran in Springtime - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
- HM Quilt Block Barn in B&W - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
- HM Rosie - Michael Greiner, Sioux City

32 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Great River. Chair: Ryno W. Olson. Judges: Roger Luft, Shedon Farwell, Hal Woods. Comments: Excellent set of prints. Some prints were in the wrong category. Some print information on score sheet did not match the back of prints.

Color Prints

- 1st Cedar Waxwing - Kevin Smith, Sioux City
- 2nd Strawberry Blossom - Barb McGraw, Des Moines
- 3rd Taking in a Beautiful Display of Color - Roxanne Westman, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Looking for Nectar - John Eisterhold, Albert Lea Lens & Shutter
- HM Saint Remy Style - Barry Brestel, Des Moines
- HM Old Chain - Bob Rude, Iowa City
- HM Intelligent Design - Jack Bristow, Sioux City

65 entries from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Cheyenne. Chair: Judy Berkley. Judges: Jan Barhite, Linda Williams, Paul Bobenmoyer. Comments: Better set of photos than we saw last year. Good discussion on merits of each photo. Missed snowstorm that hampered a couple of our judging sessions in past years but it did rain. First time in years that return postage came out connect for ALL packages.

Digital Creative

- 1st Henry - Morris Gildemeister, Saint Paul
- 2nd Fireworks - Linda Rutherford, Women's Color
- 3rd Picture 1222 - Meg Klink, Iowa City
- HM Neon Pink Waterlilies - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
- HM Park Service Centennial - Dale Rehder, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Hybiscus - Don Loseke, Omaha
- HM Buffalo Explosion - Shannon Voges, Sioux Falls
- HM Argo - Les Anderson, Saint Paul
- HM Mrs. Robert B Bouquet - Peggy Boike, Saint Paul
- HM Mushroom and Toad - Larry Syverud, Saint Paul
- HM Magic Butterfly - Michael Huber, Western Wisconsin

101 entries from 22 clubs. Judging Club: Black Hills Photography Club. Chair: Jacqueline Rinehart / Deb Zimmerman. Judges: Rachel Pogorelski, Micheal Slabeck, Betty Bonawitz.



APRIL

Contest Results

Digital B&W

- 1st Stare Down - Shannon Voges, Sioux Falls
- 2nd Waiting to be Valled - Richard Birger, Saint Paul
- 3rd Hovenback - Dan Ray, Black Hills
- HM Easy Turn - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- HM Atlas in the Lead - John Larson, Shutterbug
- HM Sanctuary - Bob Muschewske, Saint Paul
- HM First Light - Marv Vikla, Saint Paul
- HM Lindsborg Mill - Greg Hoglund, Topeka
- HM The Pharmacy is Open - Sondra Barry, Wichita Area
- HM Lady Rain is Meditating - James Mitchell, Wichita Area
- HM Mountain Peaks in the Clouds - Melissa Anderson, Western Wisconsin
- HM Tired Baby with Her Ja Ja Ja - Amanda Bierbaum, Western Wisconsin

111 entries from 21 clubs. Judging Club: Minot Camera Club. Chair: Betty Nordstrom. Judges: Cory Hansen, Tim Zeltinger, LaVonne Carlson. Comments: Some great shots, some not as good, but difficult to judge with so many good photos submitted.

Digital Journalism

- 1st Standoff - J. Arthur Anderson, Western Wisconsin
- 2nd Caught Ya! - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
- 3rd Catch of the Day - Greg Punelli, Des Moines
- HM Blue Angels Break Out - Ken Cheung, Minnesota Valley
- HM Hangin On - Larry Weinman, North Metro
- HM Going for the Kill - Bob Muschewske, Saint Paul
- HM Crowd in Aw! - Greg Hoglund, Topeka
- HM Icelandic Ice Caves are Other World - Jim Boots, Wichita Area
- HM Defending the Goal - Fred Sobottka, Western Wisconsin

81 entries from 19 clubs. Judging Club: North Metro Photo Club. Chair: Dave Furland. Judges: Laura Davies, Jean McDonough, Lance Nelson.

Digital Nature

- 1st Fox Waiting - Jim Wendel, Albert Lea Lens & Shutter
- 2nd DandelionWishes - Laurie Helling, Dubuque
- 3rd Marital Bliss - Keith Anderson, Sioux Falls
- HM Ruby Throated Hummingbird - Bill Williamson, Central Iowa
- HM Fox Kit Near Den - Kenneth Kiss, Dubuque
- HM Tricky Landing - Kevin McTague, Dubuque
- HM Winter Sunrise - Jose Garcia, Dubuque
- HM Sea Bears - Eric Williamson, Des Moines
- HM Meadowlark - Dale Rehder, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Booted Racket Tail 2 - Martha Farwell, Great River
- HM Landing Hen Pheasant - Steve Silseth, Minot
- HM Impala Running Off Ground - Jean McDonough, North Metro
- HM Dance Line - Larry Headley, Omaha
- HM Stormy Sunset - Pavel Blagev, Western Wisconsin
- HM Just Hanging Out - Beverly Hawkins, Women's Color

132 entries from 22 clubs. Judging Club: Wichita Area Camera Club. Chair: Dwight Corrin. Judges: Jim Boots, Paulette Mattingly, Bruce Ward.



APRIL

Contest Results

Digital Pictorial

- 1st Rocks Underwater Sunrise - Pavel Blagev, Western Wisconsin
- 2nd Cove Point Sunrise - Angela Hoffman, Fargo-Moorhead
- 3rd Dancers in the Wind - Marge Springett, Western Wisconsin
- HM Sunrise Off Steptoe Butte - Dwight Tomes, Des Moines
- HM Reflection - Greg Punelli, Des Moines
- HM Cutter - Kevin LaMar, Duluth-Superior
- HM Preening Behavior - Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Fawn Breasted Hummer - Sheldon Farwell, Great River
- HM Early Morning Cemetery (2) - Bob Rude, Iowa City
- HM Wayfarer - Paul Abraham, La Crosse Area
- HM Happy Gecko - Nikki McDonald, Omaha
- HM Daybreak at Ellingson Island - Shannon Voges, Sioux Falls
- HM Stillwater Evening - Michael Huber, Western Wisconsin

125 entries from 22 clubs. Judging Club: Dubuque Camera Club. Chair: Cara Pusateri. Judges: Ron Tigges, Kenneth Kiss, Leo Heim.

Digital Travel

- 1st Cathedral Rock Cave - Australia - Tom Schendel, North Metro
- 2nd American Spirit Entering Port - Duluth - Kevin LaMar, Duluth-Superior
- 3rd A View of Washington DC - Mike Waterman, Western Wisconsin
- HM Train Museum - North Freedom, WI - Kevin McTague, Dubuque
- HM Fall in the Smokies - TN - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
- HM Milky Way Over Moulton Barn - WY - Ellen Janke, Des Moines
- HM Bristlecone Forest - CA - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
- HM Upper Antelope Canyon Paige, AZ - Tim Zeltinger, Minot
- HM England's Lake District - Larry Headley, Omaha
- HM Coal Mine Canyon, AZ - Don Loseke, Omaha

97 entries from 21 clubs. Judging Club: Saint Paul Camera Club. Chair: Gene Schwope. Judges: Paul Rogne, Herb Gustafson, Morris Gildemeister.

Journalism Prints

- 1st Uphill Ballet - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- 2nd Team Work Wins - Scott Thomson, Duluth-Superior
- 3rd Going for the Take Down - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
- HM To Close for Comfort - Jane Heinecke, Duluth-Superior
- HM Showing Off - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
- HM Humpback Whale Breaching - Mark Gromko, Iowa City

15 entries from 5 clubs. Judging Club: Cedar Rapids. Chair: Kay Kotowske. Judges: Sandra Kotowske, Regina Kotowske, SuAnn Tichy. Comments: Some images were manipulated.



Nature Prints

- 1st Tiger Launch - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines
- 2nd Sharp Shinned - Michael Greiner, Sioux City
- 3rd Butterfly on Leaf - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
- HM Who? - Diane Lowry, Des Moines
- HM Sharp in Scottsdale - Steve Paulson, Sioux City
- HM Swallow Tail #1 - Doug Conrad, Sioux City

31 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Great River. Chair: Ryno W. Olson. Judges: Roger Luft, Sheldon Farwell, Hal Woods. Comments: Excellent set of prints. Some prints were in the wrong category.

Photo Essays

- 1st Seasons - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
- 2nd We Rise Again - J. Arthur Anderson, Western Wisconsin
- 3rd Express Yourself 2017 - Terry Butler, Western Wisconsin
- HM Life on the Prairie - Greg Punelli, Des Moines
- HM Sticky Parlors - Nancy Heather Brown, Des Moines
- HM The Writing is on the Wall - Randy Moyer, Iowa City

10 entries from 5 clubs. Judging Club: Great River Camera Club. Chair: Dwight Tomes. Judges: Martha Farwell, David W. Lohman, Ryno W. Olson. Comments: There were 10 entries in the contest for 2017. All submitted essays were easily projected and are with the .mp4 file type. The judges were familiar with this contest and criterion for judging. Specifically, judges evaluated the story (interest) image quality (composition) and complimentary sound files (technique) to make their decisions. Additional club members attended the judging. Very enjoyable!

Travel Prints

- 1st End of Season - Duluth, MN - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- 2nd Watertank Graffiti, AZ - Ed Lorson, Iowa City
- 3rd Surf at Hookipo Beach, HI - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
- HM High Stakes Checker, NY - Dwight Tomes, Des Moines
- HM Iconic Roseman Bridge, IA - Paul Grillo, Des Moines
- HM New Hancher Auditorium, IA - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City

17 entries from 5 clubs. Judging Club: Cedar Rapids. Chair: Kay Kotowske. Judges: Sandra Kotowske, Regina Kotowske, SuAnn Tichy. Comments: Some prints missing contest "Travel Prints"

Panoramic Prints

- Splintered Tracks of the Past, Paul Grillo, Des Moines
- Old Threshers, Mark Gromko, Iowa City
- Wallowa Mountains No. 2, Mike Walsh, Sioux City
- Umbria Sunrise, Jose Santos, MN Valley
- MN State Fair Arts Building, Don Gallagher, MN Valley
- Oct 8th at 6,800 Feet, Delores Meister, Iowa City

31 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Chair: Ed Siems. Judges: Sonja Heglund, Gene Schwope, Marty Welter.

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N4C is affiliated with the Photographic Society of America.

President: Linda Rutherford lruther1@comcast.net

1st Vice President: Bob Lathi

2nd Vice President: Debbie Bates

Secretary: Pat Schwope photopeople01@aol.com

Treasurer: Lynda Richards JRich10244@aol.com

N4C Directors

Mark Gromko, John Larson Jr., Steve Thompson, Doug Conrad, Paul Grillo, Greg Hogle

N4C Bulletin Staff

Editor/Publisher: Sharla Glick edit@n4c.us

E-Publisher: Gene Schwope photopeople01@aol.com

North Central Camera Club Council

Sharla Glick, Publisher

27965 510 Ave

Kelley, IA 50134

