



North Central Camera Club Council

February 2021 News Bulletin

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President Mark Gromko's Notes:



Over the last months, my computer had been running more and more slowly and crashing regularly. A repair service was not able to help: it was time to buy a new computer. My external drives were the same vintage as the old computer, so I also got an upgrade on external drives for storage and backup.

My photo collection contains an unknown number of duplicate, fuzzy, or otherwise uninteresting photos that take up space on my hard drives but serve no Earthly purpose. Rather than fill up the new external drives with those useless images, I decided to bite the bullet: review all the

photos and purge the collection of ones I don't want or need.

This turned out to be a huge task. On the one hand, it's amazing just how many pictures I have taken of the very same thing while standing in the very same spot, perhaps (I will conjecture generously) waiting for the light to change. On the other hand, I am also amazed that there are so many photos that I did not edit: sequences I meant to blend in HDR or stitch into a panorama but failed to process. Before I could decide whether to keep or toss many of the photos, I had to blend, stitch, or otherwise edit them to see if they were worth keeping.

The upside of this task is that I have discovered some photos I really like but had been hidden away on my hard drive. Some of the new keepers won their space on the hard drive by virtue of improved editing software: Light Room of today does things it couldn't do five years ago, for instance. In other cases, I find my own tastes and preferences have changed over time (for the better, one hopes). Not all the new keepers are good photos, either. Sometimes the photos have value to me – despite their lack of artistic merit – in their ability to recall events, old friends, adventures and misadventures. Mark



Photos by Mark Gromko

N4C CLUBS

Albert Lea Lens & Shutter Photography Club

Black Hills Photography Club

Cedar Rapids Camera Club

Central Iowa Camera Club

Color Shooters Camera Club

Des Moines Camera Club

Dubuque Camera Club

Duluth-Superior Camera Club

Fargo-Moorhead Camera Club

Fort Dodge Camera Club

Great River Camera Club

Heart O'Lakes Camera Club

Huron Area Photography Club

Image Makers

Iowa City Camera Club

Kuntemeier Kamera Club

La Crosse Area Camera Club

Lidgerwood Camera Club

Lincoln Camera Club

Minnesota Valley Photography Club

Minot Camera Club

Mitchell Camera Club

North Iowa Photo Club

North Metro Photo Club

Omaha Camera Club

Photo Shooters Camera Club

RV Digital Camera Club

Saint Paul Camera Club

Shutterbug Camera Club

Sioux City Camera Club

Sioux Falls Camera Club

Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs

Topeka Camera Club

West Central Iowa Camera Club

Western Wisconsin Photo Club

Wichita Camera Club



Malicious emails.

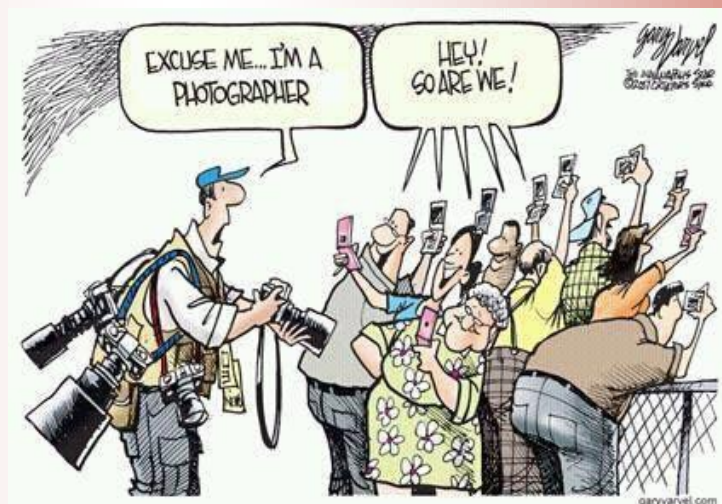
The N4C email address for the President has been a target for hackers over the years. This year again people of bad intent have used N4C email addresses to ask for money, gift cards, or even just a reply. This year, the practice has seen another variant: the phishing emails don't even come from an N4C email address; they just use the name of the president or of someone in a local club.

Be assured that N4C will not ask for money or gift cards because the sender is stuck in a foreign country!! If you get an email like this, the best practice is to trash it without responding and without clicking on any internal link.

It also goes for the Board members' email addresses too.

If you get any email from Mark or the Board that does not pertain to N4C, DELETE IT! DO NOT OPEN IT!

I've had one that said it was from Paul and he forgot to share an email. Check the email address. If it's funky, Delete It!!!





64th Annual 2021 N4C Convention

proudly hosted by the
Duluth-Superior Camera Club.

Welcome everyone to the
64th Annual N4C Convention. Registration is now open!

**The Convention will be held September 23-26, 2021
in our beautiful international port city of Duluth, MN.**

Duluth is nestled on a 600 foot bluff overlooking the largest freshwater lake in the world, Lake Superior. With just a hop, skip, and jump across the Blatnik Bridge, you'll be in Superior, WI. We are aiming for a hybrid approach this year due to Covid-19, meaning there are options to join us in person or virtually...or both! I know there is a lot of uncertainty around the Covid-19 virus and will people feel safe attending events in person. We are making every effort to make this a hybrid event, so you can come attend in person, or join us from your couch at home. I personally would like to encourage everyone to think about registering early. You can sign up for a virtual ticket and decide to come in person at a later date! We will accommodate changes from virtual to in person and vice versa for tickets. That way you have a dual plan in place to attend!

Also don't forget that our **Early Bird Special Pricing** for Registration ends **May 31, 2021!**

We just started a Facebook Page for the Convention where we will be posting all sorts of fun facts, speakers, promos, and event updates. Hit the "Like" button and follow along with us! <https://www.facebook.com/N4CFallConvention>

Other options to follow us, click on any of the following links to learn more about the Convention and keep up to date on details!

<https://www.duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org/events/n4c-convention-2021>

<https://n4cduluthconvention.eventzilla.net/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1035883203543164/>

The Convention will be held at the Radisson Hotel-Harborview in Duluth MN. You can call and book your hotel rooms NOW! Call: (800) 333-3333 and let them know you are with the N4C Convention. The Radisson is a local landmark just steps from Canal Park and the Skywalk. Radisson Hotel Duluth-Harborview is Minnesota's only circular hotel. You can use the Skywalk to reach shops, restaurants, and museums that are scattered along the waterfront or hop aboard their complimentary shuttle to get to the airport and other nearby attractions.

After our meetings, you can enjoy breathtaking views of Lake Superior while dining on innovative American cuisine at JJ Astor.

Look for a survey going out in March to all the members in regards to the event so we can gather more information from you the members! We are so excited to host this year's Convention, and look forward to seeing you all either in person or virtually!

Stay safe and warm.

Amber Nichols, DSCC Committee Chair





Received a Convention video from Kathleen Wolleat.
This is the short web link to it: <https://youtu.be/Yw8-iXSWvlc>

It is on the N4C web home page <http://n4c.us/>

**N4C 2021 Annual
Convention
Duluth, MN
September 23-26
by Duluth-Superior Camera Club**



N4C CONTEST CHAIRS

Please check this column each month for any updates on addresses for judging the monthly contest.

The following has been changed in the judging information:

New Address:

1. New information as of January 4, 2021, for

Paul Hagen, Director Number 1

1824 33rd Street South, Moorhead, MN 56560

New email:

paul@siteonsound.net

2. New e-mail for George Bebout, Historian

jbybau1645@gmail.com

3. New e-mail for Carl Hardy,

Handbook & Directory Editor

torchenterprises72@gmail.com



NO PRINT CONTEST

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

N4C January 2021 1st Place Winners



US Navy Blue Angels Flying In Formation Over Fargo ND During Airshow 2015
- Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead Digital Journalism



Sunset Unlimited - Paul Bellinger, Omaha Digital Altered Reality



Under The Bridge - Diane Lowry, Des Moines Digital Black & White



Delicate Arch At Sunset - Utah USA - Stephonie Schmitz, Dubuque Digital Travel

N4C January 2021 1st Place Winners



Magical Meeting -
Heather Vanderveen, Omaha
Digital Pictorial

Blue Heron With Fish
- Valarie Anderson, Saint Paul
Digital Nature





**North Central
Camera Club
Council**

N4C Digital Contacts—

Do not enter versions of the same image in multiple contests! For example, do not enter both a color & B&W version in the same month. If both win, one will be withdrawn. The rule is: "Any entry which receives a 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or HM award in a monthly competition may not be re-entered in the same year or later years, in the same or any other category, regardless of variations or changes made."

Encourage your members to explore the N4C website where they will find a lot of photography to study, and photography links with an unlimited number of tutorials and educational videos to learn from. <http://n4c.us/>

Entries must be received by 5:00 pm February 15, however make every effort to send them by the 13th to allow time for confirmation.
- Judging may begin on the 16th - make sure you receive confirmation that entries were received.

The cutoff time will be 5:00pm on the 15th giving the judging chair time to organize them for judging starting on the 16th. The point is....don't wait until the last minute. There have been problems with occasionally missing entries when they are not received until late in the night on the 15th.

The 2020-2021 rules are on the N4C web at <http://n4c.us/competition.htm> by clicking the blue "N4C Contest Rules" button.

The N4C Directory is available by email from Carl Hardy and his email is torcenterprises72@gmail.com. The Handbook contains the contest rules and other general N4C Info. The Directory contains the list of judging clubs for all the contests along with contact info for all the affiliated clubs. The Handbook is available for download from the web <http://n4c.us/Supplies-Forms.htm> page.

There are six Digital Image Contests each month - (see the definitions of each category in the Rules):

- Altered Reality (DA)
- Black & White (DB)
- Journalism (DJ)
- Nature (DN)
- Pictorial (DP)
- Travel (DT)

Maximum of 8 entries per club per contest, not more than one from a member in each contest

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

1. File size 750KB max. (A requirement this year)
2. **Longest side 1,920 pixels max.**
3. File name should look like this example: 01,DE028,DP,Beautiful Sunset.jpg

Content of the Email Message when you send the entries:

- a. Subject Line of the Email should say "N4C Contest Entries from _(your)_ Camera Club".
- b. Specify which monthly contest and how many images are attached to the Email.
- c. List the Member Numbers and corresponding member names to ensure that the Judging Club has that information.
- d. Give the Club Name and your full name.
- e. Attach the image files

ASK THE JUDGING CLUB IF YOU DO NOT GET A RECEIVED CONFIRMATION BACK FROM THEM.

N4C Digital Contacts—

Please send Ken Johnson (kandsjohnson@mchsi.com) updated member lists when you have added Member Numbers. I'm glad to see new members participating in N4C contests. Naturally I need to get them registered so they are properly identified for the judging clubs. For new members, that really should be done a month in advance of entering.

Digital Contest for February 2021

ALTERED REALITY Digital "DA" (Digital Altered Reality) is the contest ID that goes after the Member Number

Black Hills Photography Club
Deb Zimmerman
12165 Warren Loop,
Sturgis, SD 57785
605-515-3107
contest@blackhillsp photographyclub.com

BLACK & WHITE Digital "DB" (Digital B&W) is the contest ID that goes after the Member Number:

Fargo Moorhead Camera Club
Bruce Bernstein
1505 8th Street South
Fargo, ND 58103
701-235-5945
brucepamfargo@cableone.net

JOURNALISM Digital "DJ" (Digital Journalism) is the contest ID that goes after the Member Number:

Sioux Falls Camera Club
James Craig
901 South Marday Avenue
Sioux Falls, SD 57103-2933
605-376-0529
jim@jimcraiglaw.com

NATURE Digital "DN" (Digital Nature) is the contest ID that goes after the Member Number:

Women's Color Photo Club
Linda Rutherford
1419 Riverside Drive
River Falls, WI 54022
715-426-9297
lrutherl@comcast.net



N4C Digital Contacts—

PICTORIAL Digital "DP" (Digital Pictorial) is the contest ID that goes after the Member Number:
Dubuque Camera Club

Cara Pusateri
3420 Saint Catherine Road
Bellevue, IA 52031
563-542-0380
cpusateri5@aol.com

TRAVEL Digital "DT" (Digital Travel) is the contest ID that goes after the Member Number:
Be sure to include the STATE or COUNTRY of the image in the title.

Shutterbug Camera Club
John F. Larson Jr
609 Stoneledge Road
State College, PA 16803
319-671-1568
Jflarson114@gmail.com



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N4C Supplies & Forms - on the web.

Entry forms, Reports and more. Make your job easier - Check it out.

<http://n4c.us/Supplies-Forms.htm>

A club will normally have up to 8 entries for a contest. A typical image file name list might look like:

(USE YOUR CLUB NAME AND MEMBER NUMBER INSTEAD OF DA044 - zero "0" 44 not a letter "O")

(USE DA, DB, DJ, DN, DP, or DT for the Contest Code - This example is for the Digital Nature Contest)

(Notice commas separating the data in the file names)

01,DA044, DN,Deer.jpg
03,DA022, DN,Grand Arch.jpg
04,DA033, DN,Teton Reflection.jpg
05,DA037, DN,White Water.jpg
06,DA002, DN,Shadows.jpg
07,DA025, DN,Horsetail Falls.jpg
08,DA018, DN,Soaring Eagle.jpg

Members should submit entries with filenames similar to the above except for the sequence numbers. The club N4C Rep will rename the files to include the sequence numbers. The club N4C Rep may want to keep things simple for the club members and handle ALL the file naming - how this is done is left to the club. The sequence numbers will determine the sequencing of the image in the judging line-up. All the contest entries will be sorted in alpha-numeric sequence by filename, so this will mix up club entries for judging. The 01's from all the clubs will be judged first and the 08's at the end.

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N4C January (2021-01) Contest Results

Digital Altered Reality

- 1st Sunset Unlimited - Paul Bellinger, Omaha
- 2nd Arctic Fox At Play - Marianne Diericks, Western Wisconsin
- 3rd The Eagle Has Landed - Jerry Burnell, Wichita Area
- HM Wintertime Fireworks - Ron Tigges, Dubuque
- HM Chapel_After_Snowfall - Kenneth Kiss, Dubuque
- HM Bison - Dale Rehder, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Summon The Dragon - Mike Barker, Omaha
- HM Amethyst In Snow Bouquet - Peggy Boike, Saint Paul

71 entries from 15 clubs. Judging Club: Cedar Rapids Camera Club. Chair: Sandra Kotowske. Judges: SuAnn Tichy, Susan Stepanek, Regina Kotowske.

Digital B&W

- 1st Under The Bridge - Diane Lowry, Des Moines
- 2nd Puppy Portrait In Black _ White - Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead
- 3rd F-22 - High-G Turn - Contrails And Condensation - David Perez, Minnesota Valley
- HM Shaped By Wind Water And Time - Dale Rehder, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Flood Stage Series - Steve Simmer, Saint Paul
- HM Seed Reflection - Betsy Petersen, Sioux Falls
- HM Steinway Keyboard - Peggy Boike, Saint Paul
- HM O-Lead Team - Ronnie Hartman, Saint Paul
- HM Guggenheim Museum Bilbao - Spain - Marv Vikla, Saint Paul
- HM Hot Air Balloon Reflection - Tom Arnhold, Topeka

96 entries from 19 clubs. Judging Club: Omaha Camera Club. Chair: Nikki McDonald. Judges: Chris Amberg, Eva Lovas, Marty Barker. Comments: Judges agree that we had any number of very nice entries. Tie-breaking at the top was crazy hard, as they say, so well done. We did comment on 100% of the entries, trying to be encouraging, supportive, and helpful. Judges used scoring method 2. Two or more judges contributed comments on most entries.

Digital Journalism

- 1st US Navy Blue Angels Flying In Formation Over Fargo ND during Airshow 2015 - Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead
- 2nd Covid Can't Stop Soccer - Allen Kurth, Omaha
- 3rd Monitoring Back Burn - Linda Rutherford, Women's Color
- HM Waiting For My Turn - James Durrant, Dubuque
- HM Foot Race - Michelle Hall, Shutterbug
- HM Beargrease Dog Sled Start - Amber Nichols, Duluth-Superior
- HM Up And Over - Karen Harris, Lincoln
- HM Wood Cutter At Work - Ken Wolter, Western Wisconsin

77 entries from 20 clubs. Judging Club: Iowa City Camera Club. Chair: Randy Moyer. Judges: Bob Rude.

Digital Nature

- 1st Blue Heron With Fish - Valarie Anderson, Saint Paul
- 2nd Denali - John Kugler, Omaha
- 3rd Reflections Of The Fallen - Will Hoyer, Dubuque
- HM Coming In For A Landing - Janie Lawson, Des Moines

N4C January (2021-01) Contest Results (Continued)

Digital Nature (Continued)

- HM Wild Horses At Sand Wash Basin - Mark Gromko, Iowa City
- HM Inside Claret Cup - Peggy Boike, Saint Paul
- HM Milkyway - Mike Barker, Omaha
- HM Alert Hummer - Ken Epstein, Saint Paul
- HM Standing Tall At White Sands - Cindy Carlsson, Saint Paul
- HM Scrub Brush At Monument Valley - Mick Richards, Western Wisconsin
- HM Mushroom 2 - Mike Barker, Omaha
- HM Sunset At Grand Canyon - Marty Barker, Omaha

124 entries from 21 clubs. Judging Club: Duluth-Superior Camera Club. Chair: Michael Miller. Judges: Joni Tauszell, Kathleen Wolleat, Nancy Lindberg.

Digital Pictorial

- 1st Magical Meeting - Heather Vanderveen, Omaha
- 2nd 7219 Sunflower Oblique - David Perez, Minnesota Valley
- 3rd Let There Be Light Over Monument Valley (No filters) - Jerry Burnell, Wichita Area
- HM The Dancer - Cara Downing, North Metro
- HM Ruby Throated Hummingbird - Keith Anderson, Sioux Falls
- HM Eerie Bouquet - Donna Turner, Omaha
- HM Marine Architecture With Curves And Stairs - Roy Hakala, Saint Paul
- HM White And Red Breasted Nuthatch - Dale Rehder, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Leaf Model - Ken Cheung, Minnesota Valley
- HM The View From A Bridge - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior
- HM Deep In The Forest - Bob Rude, Iowa City
- HM Polar Bear - Donna Gustafson, Lincoln

117 entries from 20 clubs. Judging Club: Des Moines Camera Club. Chair: Janie Lawson. Judges: Paul Grillo, Dwight Tomes, Terri Dermondy.

Digital Travel

- 1st Delicate Arch At Sunset - Utah USA - Stephonie Schmitz, Dubuque
- 2nd Sanatorini Sunset - Greece - Allen Kurth, Omaha
- 3rd Hydes Mill, Ridgeway Wi - Kevin McTague, Dubuque
- HM Somewhere Between Chama NM And Antonito CO - Peggy Volden, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Sunset On Superior,MN - Dave Eckmann, Saint Paul
- HM Cape Cod Lighthouse-MA - Richard Hudson, Western Wisconsin
- HM John Ford View At Midnight,UT - Marv Vikla, Saint Paul
- HM Starburst Lights On The Jensen Beach Bridge_Stuart Florida - Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead
- HM Grand Canyon Morning, Arizona - Richard Birger, Saint Paul
- HM Lake Superior Sunset-MN - Marianne Diericks, Western Wisconsin

93 entries from 20 clubs. Judging Club: Minnesota Valley Photography Club. Chair: Rich Roberts. Judges: Joy Kamano , Bev Kiecker, Al Kiecker.

Print Contest for January through May, 2021

has been canceled until September 2021.

2020 Sept–Oct– Nov- Prints will be judged in the Best of the Best for September Fall Convention.

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N4C 2021 Mini– Spring Convention

the end of April has been canceled for 2021 by the Board.

It has been rescheduled for April 2022,

100th



100th

Long time former N4C member Gerry Solomons has a birthday on February 22. He will be 100. He was a member of the Iowa City Club and attended most of the Springbrook Conventions and many of the September Conventions.



**North Central
Camera Club
Council**

**“Where Names Become Faces
and Faces Become Friends”**

The N4C Bulletin is the official publication of the North Central Camera Club Council which serves camera clubs in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

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N4C Bulletin Staff Editor/Publisher: Debbie Bates: edit@n4c.us,

E-Publisher: Gene Schwope: photopeople01@aol.com