



# North Central Camera Club Council

October 2021 News Bulletin

Volume 56 No. 48

## President Doug Conrad's Notes:

Greetings Everyone,

Normally for the October newsletter I would be writing about the convention in Duluth, which I know would have been a wonderful event, but unfortunately and with careful consideration for the welfare of all our members, the Duluth Convention Committee decided it was necessary to postpone until next year. I personally understand what they went through as I and our committee were faced with the same difficult situation last year, cancelling the convention in Sioux City. Fortunately for us, however, Duluth has not given up, and will be hosting the event next year. My hat goes off to all of those involved as we recognize all the work that goes into the planning of these events. I also thank them for their energy and persistence so that we will see all their efforts eventually come to fruition.



So with the convention in Duluth postponed, that opened up the opportunity for me to go to the Black Hills Photo Shootout based in Sturgis, South Dakota. I have gone to this event for the last eight years missing a couple only because it happened to coincide with the N4C Convention. If you have never attended this event it is one that I would highly recommend (as long as it doesn't interfere with the N4C convention) and I believe that has only happened twice.

This time of year the Hills are beautiful and vibrant with color and also less crowded as the tourist season, for the most part, is over. Numerous field trips with models and reenactors and instruction are offered and cater to both beginner and advanced photographers.

Some of the field trips I attended were:

1880 Town – Here we were able to shoot cowboy reenactors and Ulysses S. Grant in a setting that replicates a town in the 1880's.

Barns and Soldiers – The setting here was a set of old historic barns and out buildings with models dressed in 1880's cavalry uniforms and of course Ulysses S. Grant.

Night Sky Basics took us out to an old barn with Bear Butte in the background to shoot the Milky Way. The barn is very similar to that famous barn in the Grand Tetons.

Photo Rumble was shot at the world famous Full Throttle Saloon. Here we got a chance to shoot some wild male and female biker portraits as well as some huge metal sculptures.



Photo by Doug Conrad

Continued from President's Notes:

Real World Compositions – Finding and figuring out compositions can be a problem, so for this we were able to work an area called Little Elk Creek Trail looking for and figuring out possible compositions with the help of a very knowledgeable instructor.

Western Traditions – Here we were able to experience real cowboys on a working ranch where they hot forged a metal ring to fit a covered wagon wheel and forged hot shoes for a team of stagecoach horses.

With all that, it was a very enjoyable and productive but exhausting weekend. If you would like more information go to [www.blackhillspotoshootout.com](http://www.blackhillspotoshootout.com). Keep shooting everyone

## PRINT COMPETITIONS

# New Print Contest Criteria

At its spring meeting the N4C Board approved changes to the rules for print competitions, which will go into effect with the August/September print contests later this year. The cost for mailing prints has increased noticeably the last few years; that increased cost has created a disincentive for clubs to participate in print competitions. The rule changes are all designed to increase participation in print competitions by making participation less costly.

1. **Mats and backing will no longer be allowed.** *All prints must be unmounted.*

**NEW**

2. **Maximum print** size will be constrained by the size of the mailer. Prints must fit, unfolded, in either a 15-1/8 x 11-5/8 inch mailer OR a 14 x 12 x 3 inch Priority Box. Both the Priority envelope and the Priority Box are available for free at USPS.

3. **CONTEST COMBINED**

- **Nature prints and B&W prints are currently judged by the same club, meaning that only one mailing is needed for these two contests.**
- **Travel and Journalism prints are currently judged by the same club.**

# N4C Digital Contacts,

It is a new competition season. If I should contact someone different, please let me know.  
**IF YOUR CLUB ENTERS PRINTS, SEE BELOW FOR WHERE TO SEND ENTRIES.**

FOR DIGITAL ENTRIES, they must be received by 5:00 pm October 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 2021-2022 rules are on the N4C web at <http://n4c.us/competition.htm> by clicking the blue "N4C Contest Rules" button.

The new N4C Directory is available by email from Carl Hardy, whose email is [torchenterprises72@gmail.com](mailto:torchenterprises72@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

**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."

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**

Please send me 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.

## **October Digital Image Judging Clubs:**

(Entries must be received by 5:00 pm October 15, however **make every effort to send them by the 13th to allow time for them to arrive.**)

## Contest Continued:

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

Cedar Rapids Camera Club

Sandra Kotowske

212 Western Ave

Oxford, IA 52322

319-400-1978

[sandra.kotowske@kirkwood.edu](mailto:sandra.kotowske@kirkwood.edu)

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

Sioux City Camera Club

Carl Hardy

3236 Maplewood Street

Sioux City, IA 51104

712-281-3345

[torchenterprises72@gmail.com](mailto:torchenterprises72@gmail.com)

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

Topeka Camera Club

Greg Hogle

2230 SW Kingsrow Road

Topeka, KS 66614

785-633-2384

[greg.hogle@sbcglobal.net](mailto:greg.hogle@sbcglobal.net)

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

Saint Paul Camera Club

Gene Schwoppe

9385 Parkside Drive

Woodbury, MN 55125-7508

651-578-1874

[photopeople01@aol.com](mailto:photopeople01@aol.com)

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

Minnesota Valley Photo Club

Craig Peterson

13576 Maryland Court

Savage, MN 55378

952-447-5211

[Mvpc-n4c-judging@minnesotavalleyphotoclub.org](mailto:Mvpc-n4c-judging@minnesotavalleyphotoclub.org)

**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.**

Black Hills Photography Club

Kevin Segrud

2105 Meadow Ln

Rapid City, SD 57703

605-209-1696

[contest@blackhillsp photographyclub.com](mailto:contest@blackhillsp photographyclub.com)

Include "N4C" in the subject line

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## October Contest continued

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.

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/>

### **PRINT ENTRIES - JUDGING CLUBS FOR October**

Print contest rules have changed starting this month.

Read about the print rules in the October News Bulletin at this link:

<http://www.n4c.us/Bulletins/N4C%20Bulletin%202021-09.pdf>

and in the attached N4C Contest Rules.

Each of the following three clubs are judging two of the monthly contests:  
 Entries must be received by these clubs by October 15.

#### **Send both Nature Prints and Black & White Prints to:**

Sioux City  
 Carl Hardy  
 3236 Maplewood St.  
 Sioux City, IA 51104  
 712-281-3345  
[torchenterprises72@gmail.com](mailto:torchenterprises72@gmail.com)

#### **Send both Color Prints and Altered Reality Prints to:**

Women's Color Photo Club  
 Linda Rutherford  
 1419 Riverside Dr  
 River Falls, WI 54022  
 715-426-9297  
[lruther1@comcast.net](mailto:lruther1@comcast.net)

#### **Send both Travel Prints and Journalism Prints to:**

Great River Camera Club  
 Ryno W. Olson  
 1861 Seven Springs Rd.  
 Muscatine, Iowa 52761  
 563-263-2643  
[rwolson@hughes.net](mailto:rwolson@hughes.net)

Ken Johnson [web@n4c.us](mailto:web@n4c.us),  
 A Digital Contest Chair  
 Enjoy photography whether or not it is yours!

## PRINT COMPETITIONS continued

In addition to combining these contests for mailing, this change will allow us to hold Altered Reality print contests monthly, instead of every other month.

Those who miss the ability to mount and mat prints might note that borders or faux mats can be printed on the print itself.

Overall, if we made no effort to decrease mailing costs there was a distinct possibility that participation in print contests would dwindle to nothing. A very positive effect of these changes, in addition to cost reduction, is to level the playing field. Presence or absence of matting or large variation in size will no longer contribute to a print's success; the emphasis will necessarily be more tightly on the photography.

### N4C Projected and Print Judging Clubs 2021-2022 version 7/17/2021

N4C Contests	Sept	Oct	Nov	Jan
Digital B & W	Shutterbug	Sioux City	Wichita	Iowa City
Digital Altered Reality	Western Wisc.	Cedar Rapids	Minn Valley	Fargo-Moorhead
Digital Journalism	Dubuque	Albert Lea	Topeka	Omaha
Digital Nature	North Metro	Saint Paul	Western Wisc	Cedar Rapids
Digital Pictorial	Wichita	Minn Valley	Omaha	Duluth-Superior
Digital Travel	Des Moines	Black Hills	Iowa City	Great River
B& W and Nature Prints	Albert Lea	Carl Hardy	SW Shutterbugs	LaCrosse
Color Prints & Altered Prints	Kuntemeier	Womens Color	Duluth-Superior	Minot
Travel & Journalism Prints	Sioux City	Great River	Minot	SW Shutterbugs

N4C Contests	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Digital B & W	Black Hills	Western Wisc	Womens Color	Dubuque
Digital Altered Reality	Dubuque	Iowa City	Sioux City	Wichita
Digital Journalism	Womens Color	SW Shutterbugs	Black Hills	Des Moines
Digital Nature	Des Moines	LaCrosse	Sioux Falls	Minn Valley
Digital Pictorial	Shutterbug	Topeka	Fargo-Moorhead	Saint Paul
Digital Travel	Sioux Falls	Duluth-Superior	Omaha	North Metro
B& W and Nature Prints	Sioux City	Topeka	Des Moines	Minot
Color Prints & Altered Prints	Central Iowa	Great River	LaCrosse	Topeka
Travel & Journalism Prints	Fargo-Moorhead	Kuntemeier	Cedar Rapids	Central Iowa



Ryno Olson brought up the question:

**Does anyone have an idea for holding the prints that are not mounted or matted in the lightbox when they are being judged?**

Ken Johnson attached a couple ideas that come to mind. And included some photos to illustrate.

1. A clipboard. A legal size one might be best. The clip could be cut off and screwed to any size board.
2. A magnetic board. This is a whiteboard with a steel backing. Use small magnets to hold the print or strips of matboard with magnets.  
Magnets on the back of a steel cookie sheet would work.

You're pretty clever; maybe these will stimulate a better idea.  
With the smaller print size, I suspect judges are going to want to view them closeup.  
Handle prints with care to avoid oily fingerprints left on them.

**Clubs that still need to pay dues for the 2021-2022 Year are:** Western Wisconsin, Topeka, Shutterbug, Photo-shooters, RV Digital, North Metro, Lidgerwood, Huron Area, Black Hills, Dubuque, Central, Fargo Moorhead, Fort Dodge

## **N4C Club Dues Request**

### **NORTH CENTRAL CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL**

September 1, 2021\_\_\_\_\_

Dear Member Club: According to the N4C bylaws in the Handbook and Directory, all club membership dues are NOW DUE. Dues are figured at the rate of \$1.00 per club member, provided that the minimum dues of any Club shall be \$10.00; the maximum dues of any club shall be \$60.00. The number of members for calculating dues will be based on the club membership as of the previous May. New clubs will calculate their current membership. Dues shall run from one calendar year, renewal date being the first of September each year.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP AS OF LAST MAY: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS X \$1.00 = TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Person sending payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please remit this amount to the N4C Treasurer,  
Lynda Richards,  
4236 228th Ave., Hartford, IA 50118-8019.

Keep top half of this copy for your records.



### **NORTH CENTRAL CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL**

September 1, 2021\_\_\_\_\_

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YOUR MEMBERSHIP AS OF LAST MAY: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERS X \$1.00 = TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Person sending payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please remit this amount to the  
N4C Treasurer,  
Lynda Richards,  
4236 228th Ave., Hartford, IA 50118-8019.





## NORTH CENTRAL CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL

### Treasurer's Report

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

July 31, 2020 – August 1, 2021

Checking Balance on Hand – July 31, 2020 (People's Bank, Carlisle, IA)  
\$5912.42

#### **RECEIPTS:**

Club Dues (35 Clubs 2020 - 21) \$1,010.00  
Convention (Refund Sioux City) 545.38  
**TOTAL INCOME: \$1,555.38 +\$7,467.80**

#### **EXPENSES:**

Convention Advance: 0.00  
Convention Expense: 0.00

#### Officer Expenses:

Postage 297.62  
Printing 31.24  
Supplies: 237.48  
PSA Dues (pd/ 3 yrs. 3/19 – 3/22) 0.00  
Spring Mini Convention  
Wesley Woods 0.00  
(2020 & 2021 deposits extended to  
2022 & 2023 \$340.00/each year)  
Website & Domain 87.70  
**TOTAL EXPENSES: \$654.04 -\$654.04**

Checking Balance on Hand as of July 31, 2021 \$6813.76

CD - (People's Bank, Carlisle, IA 3-8-21 at  
.6% 20 months on 9-8-22) \$8,832.66

Net Balance \$15,646.42

## Change In Bylaw Voting, by Mark Gromko

Statement of the issue

Article III of the N4C Constitution (in section C of the Handbook) states that,

“The powers of management of this Council shall be vested in, and exercised by, a Board of Directors of eleven (11) members.”

However, the same article makes a statement suggesting that the membership – not the Board – has the authority to manage the business of the Council:

“At all elections and at all meetings each member club shall be entitled to votes in proportion to club membership, according to rules adopted by the Board of Directors; a majority of all such votes shall decide all elections or any questions coming before such meeting.”

The Bylaws (found in section D of the Handbook) also create confusion about the role of the membership in decision making, while at the same time giving broad authority to the Board. Article I of the Bylaws states,

“It shall be the duty and function of the Board of Directors to carry on the routine business and guide the activities of this Council in such a way as to relieve the general membership, insofar as possible, of the necessity of transacting business at other times than at the Annual Meeting.

“The Board of Directors shall have complete charge of and supervision of all matters affecting the Council, where provision has not otherwise been made in the Constitution of these By-Laws.”

Finally, Article VI of the Bylaws specifies how the proportional voting - mentioned in Article III of the Constitution - should be conducted:

“Each member club shall be entitled to five (5) votes, plus one (1) vote for each ten (10) members or fraction thereof, of said club.”

Recent past practice has allowed voting by all those in attendance at the fall Board meeting, a practice that can be traced back to a time when there were two Board meetings at the annual convention, one for Board business and one for the general membership. However, allowing all those present to vote at a Board meeting diminishes the authority granted to the Board in both the Constitution and the Bylaws. Neither does such voting practice allow for votes in proportion to club membership, which is called for in the Constitution and detailed in the Bylaws.

The Board believes that the requirement for voting by the membership (in proportion to club membership) should apply to the election of Officers and Directors of the Board, as well as to any changes to the Constitution. The Board, not the membership, has the authority – and responsibility – to conduct the business of the Council.

To eliminate the contradictory statements described above, to clarify the role of the Board, and to specify when voting by clubs in proportion to their membership is needed, the Board asks the member clubs to approve the following change to the N4C Constitution. If the change is approved, the Board will make corresponding changes to their Bylaws. Those Bylaw changes are included below for information purposes.<sup>10</sup> Member clubs are only asked to vote on the change to the N4C Constitution.

## Change in Bylaw Voting Continued

The specific change to be voted on:

In Article III of the Constitution make the following change:

“At all elections and at all meetings, each member club shall be entitled to votes in proportion to club membership, according to rules adopted by the Board of Directors; a majority of all such votes shall decide all elections or any questions coming before such meeting.”

Corresponding changes to be made by the Board to the Bylaws if the above change is approved:

1) In Article I of the Bylaws delete the phrase indicated with strikethrough:

“It shall be the duty and function of the Board of Directors to carry on the routine business and guide the activities of this Council in such a way as to relieve the general membership, insofar as possible, of the necessity of transacting business at other times than at the Annual Meeting.

2) In Article VI of the Bylaws, add the phrase shown in italics:

“For elections of Board of Directors and Officers as well as for changes to the N4C Constitution, each member club shall be entitled to five (5) votes, plus one (1) vote for each ten (10) members or fraction thereof, of said club.”

## Minutes of the N4C Annual Business Meeting September 23, 2021

Meeting conducted via Zoom, beginning 7:00 PM. The following were in attendance: Mark Gromko (President), Doug Conrad (1st VP), Greg Hoglund (2nd VP), Lynda Richards (Treasurer), Dwight Corrin (Director 2), Jennifer Tigges (Director 3), Tim Zeltinger (Director 4), Paul Grillo (Director 5), and Sonja Hoglund (Director 6).

### 1. Reports

a. The Treasurer’s report was distributed to and reviewed by the members of the Board prior to the meeting. It was noted that the number of clubs in N4C fell from 37 to 35 last year; a question was raised as to why those two clubs left. Both were small or single-member clubs, and members in both clubs had health issues. With no further discussion, the Treasurer’s report was accepted (moved by Dwight Corrin, seconded by Greg Hoglund, and approved by unanimous consent).

b. 2nd VP Greg Hoglund reported on the process of creating the matrix of judging clubs. It is a difficult task, with a few clubs being unwilling or unable to accept judging assignments. Greg will contact Paul Hagen (who will be the 2nd VP at the close of this meeting) and provide him with advice and council on the challenges of this task. In anticipation of taking on the 1st VP position, Greg asked whether there would be a spring convention. Mark-Gromko said he would get an update on plans for the spring convention from Randy Moyer and report back to the Board.

## September Board Minutes—Continued

2. At an earlier meeting the Board had voted to make a special award, with the intention of presenting that award at the fall convention in Duluth. Given the cancellation of the fall convention it was decided that the award would be presented at the spring convention if that is held. If the spring convention is not held, other options will be considered, including asking the awardee's club to make the presentation at a club meeting. Following on that discussion, the question was raised about awards. We now have two years' worth of awards to present to recipients. The Board still feels there is considerable value in presenting the awards in person at a convention. However, some people may prefer to receive their awards, perhaps through their local club, rather than continue to wait for a convention. Jennifer Tigges will write up something on this topic for Deb Bates to include in the Newsletter.
3. Clarity was sought as to when new Board members take office, at the beginning or at the close of the fall business meeting. All agreed that the appropriate time for that transition is at the close of the fall business meeting.
4. Lynda Richards reported on membership issues. Some clubs have a single member or very few members. As noted above in item 1.a, the viability of small clubs is vulnerable to health issues. The Covid pandemic will very likely create reduced membership at both the club and Council level. As of the date of this Board meeting 20 clubs have paid their N4C membership dues. President Gromko asked the Board to be alert to membership issues as the 2021-2022 season progresses.
5. We all feel the absence of our in-person conventions. In search of a way to create a shared experience for our membership, the Board discussed the possibility of having an N4C-wide Zoom meeting. Such a meeting might include presentation of awards and/or an outside speaker. If the spring convention is not held in-person, for instance, the Board should consider creating some sort of virtual event in the spring.
6. Mark Gromko noted inconsistency in the rules and practice of voting at the annual fall meeting of the Board. Prior to the meeting he distributed a document to the Board that detailed the problematic parts of the N4C Constitution and Bylaws. Gene Schwope had contributed valuable information about the history of voting practices and that information was included in the material provided to the Board. Mark Gromko offered two options for relieving the inconsistency and allowing the Board to conduct business consistent with our governance documents. Discussion by the Board revealed a clear preference for eliminating the practice of voting by "each member club ... with votes in proportion to club membership" on "any questions coming before" the Board "at all meetings." Voting by clubs with votes in proportion to club membership would be retained for elections of officers and directors, and for changes to the N4C Constitution. Some of the relevant language in our governance documents are in the Constitution and some in the Bylaws. Changes to the portions in the Constitution will have to be voted on by clubs (in proportion to club membership); once that vote is complete, and depending on the outcome of that vote, the Board has the authority to make corresponding changes to the Bylaws. Greg Hoglund moved (Doug Conrad seconded) to charge Mark Gromko with writing up the proposed changes in a format appropriate to be sent out for mail ballot by the member clubs. Motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.
7. Pat Schwope had previously asked the Board to consider whether clubs submitting to print competitions should be required to judge print competitions. Discussion suggested that there would be little if any benefit to such a change. Further, such a rule would be difficult to enforce. Given the lack of support for the idea, the issue was dropped without formal vote.

## September Board Minutes Continued

8. The Board considered a proposal from Dwight Corrin to drop the prohibition of “cultivated plants” in the description of the Nature competition category. Item 6 in the description of the Nature category currently reads, “Cultivated plants, domestic animals, and pets are not acceptable” (page F-5 of the Handbook). The proposal is to change that item to: “Pictures of domesticated animals and pets are not acceptable.” Dwight Corrin moved, Lynda Richards seconded, and the motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0. The change is to take effect immediately. Dwight Corrin will write a notice of the change and forward that to the print and digital Chairs for Nature, as well as to Deb Bates for inclusion in the Newsletter.

9. Ken Johnson had provided the Board with data on trends in our various contests from 2007 to present. The biggest concern is the decline in participation in print contests. Board members expressed both hope and confidence that participation rates would climb, especially given recent changes to print rules aimed at making participation easier.

10. Mark Gromko effected a virtual passing of the gavel to Doug Conrad. Board members thanked Mark for his service. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Gromko (substitute secretary)

Please send any club events & pictures to Deb, [edit@n4c.us](mailto:edit@n4c.us).  
Would like to include any events or awards from any of the clubs. Helps to give other clubs ideas.



## **Definition of Nature has been changed.**

### **Takes effect immediately**

At the N4C Board meeting held Thursday September 23, 2021, the rules for Nature competition were amended. **This amendment has taken effect immediately.**

The change in the rule is the removal of the prohibition of cultivated plants in paragraph 6.

Nature (as amended September 23, 2012)

Nature Photography is the recording of our natural world by some photographic means. Included are all branches of nature except Archeology and Anthropology.

- 1. No photograph is worth distress or injury to any wild creature.
- 2. Nature photographs may be either black & white or color.
- 3. The hand of man shall not be present in any nature entry except where wild animals have adapted to the built environment (e.g., fence posts and other man-made objects freely adapted for use by wild creatures).
- 4. Banding or tagging on nature subjects is acceptable. Photographs at bird feeders are not acceptable if any part of a man-made feeder is shown in the photograph.
- 5. Photographs taken in zoos, animal farms, or game farms are acceptable if the hand of man is not visible.
- 6. Pictures of domestic animals, and pets, are not acceptable.
- 7. Adjustments must look natural. The use of HDR, exposure blending, focus stacking, stitching, and related techniques that combine more than one image is acceptable, provided the resulting image is natural in appearance.

## Cancellation of 2021 Fall Convention in Duluth!

# *Save the date for 2022*



It is with an abundance of caution along with much disappointment that the Duluth-Superior Camera Club has decided to postpone the 2021 Fall N4C Convention for the health and safety of members and our community. We were looking forward to “everything photography” that we had planned for you, but we do not want to risk anyone’s wellness given our area’s uptick in Covid and the community spread of the virus. Also taken into consideration was the wildfires, drought, and that the leaves are already changing up here...creating potential issues with air quality and good

**conditions for our field trips.**

Just so you know, we’re a hardy, hard working bunch at 46° North. The pandemic might have won this year, but **we are planning on hosting the 2022 convention on September 22-25, 2022 at the Radisson Duluth-Harborview.** While the speaker lineup may change, the conference framework will be the same, and we will make sure you have a great educational and photographic experience.

The Radisson Duluth will work with each of you who reserved lodging. You have two options: a) Cancel your booking (nothing has been charged to anyone at this time) or b) keep your booking and use it as scheduled. To cancel your room reservation, please call the hotel at 218-727-8981, if you don’t cancel, they will charge you for the rooms.

For your convention registration fees, you have two options:

1. Roll over your registration to the 2022 N4C Convention on September 22-25, 2022. This makes it easy for you and it will help us plan ahead. You will also avoid additional charges if convention costs rise.
2. Receive a full refund electronically through PayPal if you paid through PayPal (make sure to check your account), or in the mail via a paper check if you paid via check. For a refund by check if you paid via PayPal, please contact Doug White at [dugatwork2002@yahoo.com](mailto:dugatwork2002@yahoo.com) by September 23rd with what form, or to roll it over to next year.

**We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience and frustration this may cause, and we look forward to greeting you at 46° North in 2022.**

Sincerely,  
Amber Nichols

The N4C board was discussing how to increase or keep existing club members. Here are a few things we are doing in the Dubuque, Iowa Camera Club:

The Dubuque Camera Club has been operating on a Hybrid model of club meetings. In order to keep our current members and increase with new members we have tried to make it easy for those who want to attend. The hybrid model is offering in person meetings and a zoom (or online equivalent) at the same time. If someone cannot travel easy or just plum forgot about the meeting until last minute, it allows them to log in and join us.

Emails are sent out with the agenda for each meeting a day or two ahead of time with any notes of what we will be doing at the meeting or what members should be doing. We utilize Mailchimp and have a free account. This is a great way to stay in touch with those members who do not make it to meetings. We put our minutes on our website for members to refer to also.

We have a private group Facebook page. On this page we share a few photos. Much of what is posted are photography opportunities and celebrating what club members are doing. Some of our members get spotlighted by any exhibitions that they are in, or contests that they have won in the N4C and outside of here too. It is a place for members to be engaged and ask questions.

Also, we do a couple of trade show like events to let the public know that we are out there, while showcasing our members' work. One of the most successful is the Bald Eagle event held in January. The cost of the event goes to the local Audubon Society, so that is a win too. We try to create photo opportunities by gathering in several places around the area a few times a year too. We simply took a car caravan in the spring around the countryside following one photographer who showed us a few of his favorite places.

Does your club send out regular emails? Have regular in-person or Zoom meetings? Do you have events or get togethers outside of regular mmmmeeting to engage members? Let us act together and reach out to our members and our friends. Hope this might give you a new idea for recruitment and retention of members.



### **Congratulations! The North Central Club Council**

***Bulletin* won an HM in the 2021 PSA**

**Newsletter Contest, Small Clubs,**

**Councils and Chapters division.**

**Vicki Stephens**

**2021 PSA Newsletter Contest Editor**





# **N4C September (2021-09) Contest Results**

## **Altered Reality Prints**

1st Parked in Art Gallery - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City

2nd Painted Dancer - Bob Rude, Iowa City

3rd The Melted Sky - Johnny Brian, Iowa City

HM Pastel Dreams - Ty Smith, Mitchell

HM Dragon Slayed - Mark Gromko, Iowa City

12 entries from 4 clubs. Judging Club: Kuntemeier Kamera Club. Chair: JoAnn Kuntemeier. Judges: Karen Caswell, Jeanie Yee, Carrie Berge.

## **B & W Pictorial Prints**

1st After the Fire - Ed Lorson, Iowa City

2nd UP4014 - Johnny Brian, Iowa City

3rd Juliet - Randy Moyer, Iowa City

11 entries from 3 clubs. Judging Club: Albert Lea Lens & Shutter Club. Chair: John & Linda Eiserhold. Judges: Carol Haroldson, Mitch Pederson, Ruth Olson. Comments: Interesting subjects. Nice variety.

## **Digital Altered Reality**

1st Collision - Mark Gromko, Iowa City

2nd Midnight Walk - Bob Rude, Iowa City

3rd Blue Spruce - Carol Valentine, Black Hills

HM Betta Bling - Sharon Watson, Fargo-Moorhead

HM Twirl pink - Sue Olson, Minnesota Valley

HM Last Ones a Rotten - Sondra Barry, Wichita Area

HM Flower Drops - Steve Walling, Omaha

HM IAmWomanHearMeRoar - Diana Borash, Iowa City

71 entries from 16 clubs. Judging Club: Western Wisconsin Photo Club. Chair: Terry Butler. Judges: Melissa Anderson, Steve Plocher, MJ Springett.

## **Digital B&W**

1st Milky Way Campout - Greg Hogle, Topeka

2nd Juliet - Randy Moyer, Iowa City

3rd Reflections - Stephonie Schmitz, Dubuque

HM Orchids - Martha Farwell, Great River

HM Capehart Road Farm No3 - Nikki McDonald, Omaha

HM Drama Over Lake Superior - Jackie Feil, Fargo-Moorhead

HM Gotcha - Linda Rutherford, Women's Color

HM MG Roadster - John Gustafson, Fargo-Moorhead

HM Lifracombe Harbor - Allen Kurth, Omaha

90 entries from 18 clubs. Judging Club: Shutterbug Camera Club. Chair: John F. Larson, Jr.. Judges: Sarah Bissell, Shirley White, Michelle Hall. Comments: Ribbon winning entries pretty much stood by themselves.

### **Digital Journalism**

1st Did She Make it over the Bar - John Larson, Shutterbug, Burlington, IA

2nd Ghostcat\_Plays\_at\_SITP - Doug Conrad, Sioux City

3rd Three Lead Derby - Paul Bellinger, Omaha

HM Fair Days-1st Time in the Show Ring - Candy Erk Manthey, Black Hills

HM Hold on Cowboy - Diane Lowry, Des Moines

HM Just 8 Seconds to Go - Allen Kurth, Omaha

HM Looking Up for a Hand - Steve Hanson, Black Hills

63 entries from 18 clubs. Judging Club: Dubuque Camera Club. Chair: Cara Pusateri. Judges: Ron Tigges, Bob Felderman, Ken Kiss.

### **Digital Nature**

1st Harmony-in-French-Polynesia - Stephonie Schmitz, Dubuque

2nd Breakfast on the Fence - Deb Shoning, Des Moines

3rd Hinged Tongue - Ken Epstein, Saint Paul

HM Talkative Little Guy - Allen Kurth, Omaha

HM First Peek - Marge Springett, Western Wisconsin

HM Look At Me - Barry Mullin, Saint Paul

HM leonards-skipper - Al Sheldon, La Crosse Area

HM Barn Swallow In A Barn - Kevin McTague, Dubuque

HM Dream Lake - Patricia Konyha, Wichita Area

HM Feed Me - Janie Lawson, Des Moines

93 entries from 18 clubs. Judging Club: North Metro Photo Club. Chair: Pat Boudreau. Judges: Mike Prokosch, Marianne Cyr, Steve Pacholl. Comments: Disappointed in images. Surprised at lack of wow-factor images. After much discussion, Feed Me replaced Rose-breasted Grosebeak for HM.

### **Digital Pictorial**

1st Garden Hummingbird - Allen Kurth, Omaha

2nd Lily - Marge Springett, Western Wisconsin

3rd On\_Top\_of\_the\_Dunes - Doug Conrad, Sioux City

HM Don't Bring me Flowers - Deb Shoning, Des Moines

HM purple fringe - Dwight Tomes, Des Moines

HM Midnight Sun in Iceland - Dorothy Sansom, Omaha

HM What A Hoot - Kathleen Wolleat, Duluth-Superior

HM Young Robin - Mike Miller, Duluth-Superior

HM Uncle Toms Barrett Show Stopper - Gordon Court, Fargo-Moorhead

HM Serenity at Red Rocks Amphitheatre CO - Stephonie Schmitz, Dubuque

HM This Then Is Art No1 - Nikki McDonald, Omaha

HM Lift Bridge Revisited - Ken Epstein, Saint Paul

94 entries from 19 clubs. Judging Club: Wichita Area Camera Club. Chair: Dwight Corrin. Judges: Jim Boots, Edgar Evans, Patricia Konyha.

### **Digital Travel**

1st South Dakota Badlands and a Motorcycle - Mike Barker, Omaha

2nd Bedouins - Petra Jordan - John Kugler, Omaha

3rd Traffic Jam in Venice Italy - Allen Kurth, Omaha

HM LOON SUNSET, CLEAR LAKE, MN - Debbie Bates, Southwest Iowa Shutterbugs

HM Down-the-Road,-Canadian-Rockies - Sheldon Farwell, Great River

HM Sand Castles,Whitefish Bay,WI - Martha Farwell, Great River

HM Milky Falls,Spearfish,Black Hills,SD.jpeg - Mark Guinn, Black Hills

HM Grand Prismatic Overflow, Yellowstone National Park, WY - Candy Erk Manthey, Black Hills

73 entries from 17 clubs. Judging Club: Des Moines Camera Club. Chair: Janie Lawson. Judges: Diane Lowry, Shane Abbitt, Penny Adam.

## Journalism Prints

**Judging Club: Sioux City Camera Club. Chair: Carl Hardy**  
**Results to be announced later**

## Nature Prints

1st Sheep Mountain Table Sunset - Mitch Keller, Sioux City

2nd Dunning Springs in the Spring - Bob Rude, Iowa City

3rd Blue Jay - Doug Conrad, Sioux City

10 entries from 3 clubs. Judging Club: Albert Lea Lens & Shutter Club. Chair: John & Linda Eiserhold. Judges: Carol Haroldson, Mitch Pederson, Ruth Olson. Comments: Nice variety of animals and scenics.

## Pictorial Prints (Color)

1st Newton Falls Portage - Doug Conrad, Sioux City

2nd Evening Hosta - Dwight Tomes, Des Moines

3rd Sunset - Michael Greiner, Sioux City

HM Dunning Springs - Bob Rude, Iowa City

HM Not Your Dancing Shoes - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City

HM Trying to Hide - Diana Borash, Iowa City

16 entries from 4 clubs. Judging Club: Kuntemeier Kamera Club. Chair: JoAnn Kuntemeier. Judges: Karen Caswell, Jeanie Yee, Carrie Berge.

## Travel Prints

**Judging Club: Sioux City Camera Club. Chair: Carl Hardy**  
**Results to be announced later**

**LIFE IS BETTER  
 WHEN YOU CRY A  
 LITTLE, LAUGH A  
 LOT, AND ARE  
 THANKFUL FOR  
 EVERYTHING  
 YOU'VE GOT.**

**AMEN.**



# 1st Place Images of Each Contest October 2021

## Digital B&W

### 1st Milky Way Campout - Greg Heglund, Topeka



## Digital Nature

### 1st Harmony-in-French-Polynesia - Stephonie Schmitz, Dubuque

# 1st Place Images of Each Contest October 2021



## Digital Journalism

1st Did She Make it over the Bar - John Larson, Shutterbugs



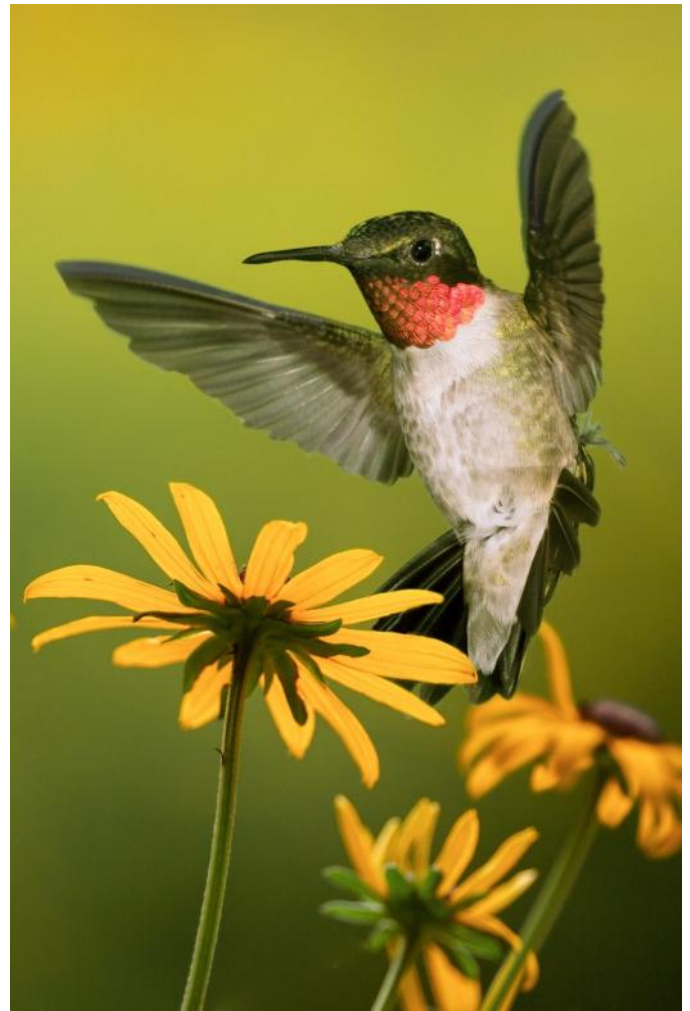
## Digital Altered Reality

1st Collision - Mark Gromko, Iowa City

# 1st Place Images of Each Contest October 2021

## Digital Pictorial

**1st Garden Hummingbird -  
Allen Kurth, Omaha**



## Digital Travel

**1st South Dakota Badlands and a Motorcycle - Mike Barker, Omaha**

**Printed and Digital Entries are due to be received by judging Clubs by the 15th of each month.**

**Contest results should be received by contest chair by 25th of the month**



## **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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