

The North Central Camera Club Council

News Bulletin

"Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends"

Volume 46 No. 10

WWW.N4C.US

May, 2011

President's Message:

Hello, again! Another month gone by and a very good time at the Springbrook convention. It was great to see all our old friends and to make some new ones. There were 94 registered, but several didn't make it. The dorms were full with a little overflow.

The board meeting was held Friday afternoon. It was voted on to drop the 2 1/4 category starting 2012 as the number of entries has been falling. The 2x2 creative and photo journalism will also be dropped for the 2012-2013 year. We are also working on a code system for comments in the digital score keeping system. If you have ideas or suggestions on the comments you would like to see, contact Jerry Bonsack, bonsack@centurytel.net.

The programs were very interesting and informative. How so much photography information gets put into such a small time frame is amazing. Hope and Gerry Solomons' program was great; their images and knowledge of the places they travel is always interesting. Ken gave several programs. One was an overview of how to enter your images in N4C contests and was of great interest to some of the newer members. Others were on Geo tracking, Proshow Gold and using photography skills in family genealogy. David Graham {Red Green} from Sioux Falls gave a interesting and entertaining program on homemade photo accessories. We wish to welcome David and all the other first time Springbrook campers to attend next year and hope they all had a great time. I visited with several of the first-timers and they all said they would be back next year.

Wizard Jerry Bonsack had a great new laser fiber optic gizmo set up with a waiting line to try it out. The Des Moines Camera Club brought 5 or 6 setups and were busy all afternoon helping people collect images. Gene Schwope presented the awards won by N4C members in the annual international PSA camera council competition. N4C finished second overall and was first in the print category. The panorama contest had 19 entries and was judged on Saturday. Congratulations to all the winners.

Ed Siems



N4C News.....

N4C Newsletter Contest

deadline extended to 6/1/11.

send 3 copies of newsletter to:

Diane Darnielle 4915 Crestmoor Drive DES Moines, Ia 50310



Grand Time at Springbrook

It was a fantastic weekend for the 93 members who came to Springbrook this year. It was likely a record number and the weather was beautiful. Plans are already being made for next year. Put it on your calendar for April 27-29, 2012. Jerry Bonsack will be planning the programs, so give him any ideas and requests. Meister's have reserved the entire facility next year for N4C, so we will have more dorm rooms available.

If anyone has any questions arising from this year's program, contact me, Ken Johnson (web@n4c.us). We had an exceptional group of speakers with a wealth of information. I will put you in contact with the speaker or track down answers.

You should have been familiar with the graphic I used for Springbrook publicity. The grass and small flowers - were to repre-



sent the greening of springtime, the yellow lettering - that of sunshine, the deer – a common sight in the park, and the background of clouds – loved by photographers. The theme was further represented by this image. For those attending, N4C Springbrook was our world for about 40 hours. We were immersed – seeing, learning, thinking, practicing, talking, dreaming - everything related to photography. That was our little planet for the weekend. These little planets are fun to make in Photoshop. Little Planet Tutorial: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0rbTE71PMYE

As another mood setter, I showed this YouTube video – the "Jive Aces: Bring Me Sunshine". http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXvJ8UquYoo Certain to make you feel happy.

Please plan to come next year. We really do have a good time. We will also be getting together next in Topeka, Kansas September 9-11, 2011 for the N4C Convention hosted by the Topeka Camera Club. Check out the information on the N4C web http://n4c.us. After all, it is "Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends!

Ken Johnson

Photo by Paul Grillo

Yes, Comments Do Matter

I've learned to appreciate and try to emulate the skill(s) of some of the great photographers both past and present in N4C and in the Des Moines Camera Club. And yes, I have learned from the entries that have returned with comments from judges. Note that I didn't say I particularly liked some of those comments—but that I learned something in the process.Learning and growing is a lifelong process.

I've just finished a stint as the Editor of a scientific journal. I received about 300 manuscripts per year of which 75% were rejected. I learned very early that <u>even a very poor manuscript deserves comments that will be</u> of use for improvement.

Yes, I know that every submitted photograph is different and that the maker sees a story that flashes back when they see the photograph. But that's why we have competitions—to create an image that also tells a story to our friends. Comments other than "blah", nice mat, or no comments just don't cut it. Ken Johnstondescribed a series of comments at Springbrook that are proposed to improve the way that we judge our photography so that we have more useful comments.

- BCP Background complements the primary subject.
- BDP Background distracts from the primary subject.
- CCI Clear center of interest.
- CFP Main subject is in sharp focus.
- EUC Effective use of a center of interest.
- GLL Great use of leading lines.
- HII High impact and interest to the viewer.
- LCI Lacks a center of interest.
- N+3 Good use of the rule of thirds.
- N-3 Consider moving the subject closer to one of the third points.
- NLL Image needs a leading line to pull you into the picture.
- NST Needs more saturation.
- NUC Needs more effective use of the elements of composition.
- OST Over-saturated.
- SFP One or more areas are not in focus.
- SFT Image is soft.
- SHP Image is very sharp.
- TLI Technically sound but lacking in interest to the majority of viewers.

These comments were very well received from those who attended Springbrook—at least better than no comments or comments that just don't make any sense. Below is 'Artist's pallet from Death Valley' just because there should be one image!

The Sore Loser.



N4C April (2011-04) Contest Results

2 x 2 Nature Slides

1st Fungi Cluster - Herb Gustafson, St Paul Camera Club

2nd Red Branch - Vernice Kingsbury, Sioux City Camera Club

3rd Peacock - Jim Duncan, St Paul Camera Club

HM Bryce Canyon - Connie Lower, Color Shooters Camera

HM O.C. & Cathedral Rock - Ed Lower, Color Shooters Camera Club

HM Grand Portage Fox - Pat Schwope, St Paul Camera Club 38 entries from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Minnesota Valley Chair: Mitch Voehl. Judges: Bev Kiecker, Mark Freier, Al Kiecker. Comments: Overall - very good. Some dirty slides. Some "hand of man" was pushed pretty hard.

2 x 2 Pictorial Slides

1st My Grandpa - Johnell Kolve, St Paul Camera Club

2nd About 1880 - Larry Crabb, Sioux City Camera Club

3rd Tulip Garden - Herb Gustafson, St Paul Camera Club

HM Mt Ranier Vista - Teresa Vokoun, Central Iowa Camera

HM Glass - Colors & Patterns - Regina Kotowske, Cedar Rapids Camera Club

HM Evening Pigeon Forge Mill - Ed Lower, Color Shooters
 Camera Club
 42 entries from 10 clubs. Judging Club: Anamosa. Chair:
 Wilma Anderson. Judges: Elsa Hirl, Laura Calhoun, Barry
 Anderson. Comments: We had 42 slides. Since digital

Wilma Anderson. Judges: Elsa Hirl, Laura Calhoun, Barr Anderson. Comments: We had 42 slides. Since digital took over we are getting fewer and fewer slides and the quality of picture isn't there. We had a nice evening of judging and fellowship.

2-1/4 Slides

1st Mt Shuksan in Fall - Connie Lower, Color Shooters Camera Club

2nd Coldwater Creek - Ed Siems, Central Iowa Camera Club

3rd Loner - Francis Kingsbury, Sioux City Camera Club

HM Morning Light - Larry Luebbert, Iowa City Camera Club

HM Virgin River Zion - Steve Paulson, Sioux City Camera Club

HM Monmoth Hot Spring - Randall Williams, Sioux City Camera Club

B & W Pictorial

desired.

1st Tired - Ed Lorson, Iowa City

2nd Galina Daybreak - Michael Greiner, Sioux City

3rd Old Globe - Meg Klink, Central Iowa

HM Here Kitty, Kitty, Kitty - Terry Kruse, Des Moines

HM Last Trip of Season - Tom Ling, Duluth-Superior

HM Log Barn in Snow - Wilford Yoder, Iowa City
41 entries from 7 clubs. Judging Club: Mitchell. Chair:
Ty Smith. Judges: Bob Podhradsky, Ty Smith, Dean
Randall. Comments: "Tired" was an exceptional portrait! Some had "auras" around them - from "high
def?" Need to calibrate ink jet printers to get that
blue tinge out of them. Don't use cardboard for
backs, it's very unprofessional. Matting left a lot to be

Color Prints

1st Sunrise Ride on the Beach - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines

2nd Brig Niagara - JoAnn Kuntemeier, Kaposia Kamera Club

3rd Swiss Valley Barn - Jo Eland, Iowa City

HM Dinner - Chris Boeke, Des Moines

HM Wrapped for Autumn - Keith Randolph, Kaposia Kamera

Club

HM Flying the Colors - Ron Nicholls, Sioux City
76 entries from 12 clubs. Judging Club: Heart O' Lakes.
Chair: Renae Southwick. Judges: Judy Brown, Cathy Mason, Glen Merz. Comments: Nice to see the variety of prints. Some of the papers used (in printing images) enhance the visual effects.

Creative Prints

1st Dog Park Daisies & Fremont Bridge - Terry Kruse, Des Moines

2nd A Bad Sign - Tom Ling, Duluth-Superior

3rd Flowers In A Cat Face - Jim Svec, Central Iowa

HM Beware The Twister - Ken Aker, Duluth-Superior

HM Young Cowboy In The Old West - Ed Lorson, Iowa City

HM Silly Shed - Fran Kingsbury, Sioux City

38 entries from 7 clubs. Judging Club: St. Paul. Chair: Gene Schwope. Judges: Morris Gildemeister, Herb Gustafson, Pat Schwope. Comments: An interesting variety of contemporary techniques was used by this month's entrants.

Creative Slides

1st Colored Dish Target - Ed Lower, Color Shooters

2nd Cat In Dark - Connie Lower, Color Shooters

3rd Paint Splattered Nude - Ty Smith, Mitchell

8 entries from 4 clubs. Judging Club: St. Paul. Chair: Gene Schwope. Judges: Morris Gildemeister, Herb Gustafson, Pat Schwope. Comments: All three judges are Contemporary Color Slide competitors, and are very sad to see the demise of contemporary slides. We were very disappointed in the low number of entries - neither the club that judged last month, nor the club that will judge next month (both of which are entitled to submit double entries) sent any entries this month.

Digital Nature

1st An_Intense_Glare - Christian Ewoldt, Des Moines

2nd Ibus - Sondra Barry, Wichita Area

3rd Tri-Color Heron 1 - Diane Darnielle, Des Moines

HM Whooping Crane - Ron Tigges, Dubuque

HM Swans Landing - Duane Wraalstad, North Metro Photo Club

HM Owl - John Sanders, Topeka

112 entries from 20 clubs. Judging Club: Central Iowa. Chair: Jim Svec. Judges: Dan Barker, Ed Siems, Mark Hayes. Comments: About half the pictures needed to be sharmerp! Hand of man in a few also, but some very nice Nature photos over all.

Digital Creative

1st DiscsofColor - Ed Lower, Color Shooters 2nd Birchglen - Joe Kubala, Duluth-Superior Mayo_Abstraction - Steve Paulson, Sioux City 3rd НМ FullCircle - Jason Mrachina, Des Moines НМ OnlyinYellowstone - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior HM LittleWaveRunners - Tom Ling, Duluth-Superior 89 entries from 18 clubs. Judging Club: St Paul. Chair: Gene Schwope. Judges: Morris Gildemeister, Herb Gustafson, Pat Schwope.

Digital Pictorial

Firestorm - Robert Lahti, Duluth-Superior 1st Sunset Loop - Dave Bair, Sioux Falls 2nd San_Diego_HDR - Brad Rieckhoff, Sioux City 3rd НМ Glade Creek Mil #2 - Tom Ling, Duluth-Superior HM A Simpler Life - Peder Schoenfeld, La Crosse Area Naturally Framed - Dave Bair, Sioux Falls HM 98 entries from 18 clubs. Judging Club: Lincoln. Chair: Stacy Carlson. Judges: Julie Halloran, Stacy Bechtel, Angela Carroll.

Nature Prints

1st Red Tailed Hawk - Herb Proudfit, Iowa City Clark's Nutcracker - Glenn Togstad, Sioux City 2nd

Fog Lifting - Ed Siems, Central Iowa 3rd

НМ Downwitcher at Splashdown - Mike Landwehr, Des Moines

НМ Lake View - Tom Ling, Duluth-Superior НМ Hanging Around - Bob Rude, Iowa City

> 48 entries from 9 clubs. Judging Club: Mitchell. Chair: Ty Smith. Judges: Mark Kitto, Jim Kost, Betsy Peterson. Comments: Very nice set of images! The top 10 could have traded places easily. Well done! There is still photo shop and Hi-def being done - guit it! It's not allowed in nature. We should have disqualified (these images) but we did not.

Photo-Travel Prints

1st Canadian Waterfall Jasper - Ed Siems, Central Iowa Strasbourg Cathedral Fr. - Larry Crabb, Sioux City 2nd Up the Gun Flint Trail - Doug Granholm, Duluth-Superior 3rd НМ Beach Near Charleston - Meg Klink, Central Iowa California Lighthouse - Mike Larson, Des Moines НМ Yao Sherpa, Jinken China - Ed Lorson, Iowa City НМ 33 entries from 8 clubs. Judging Club: Cedar Rapids. Chair: Sandra Kotowske. Judges: SuAnn Tichy, John Chadima, Regina Kotowske.

Photo-Travel Slides

Famous Barn, CO - Steve Paulson, Sioux City 1st Fall at the gray Farm - Ed Lower, Color Shooters 2nd 3rd Fall at Jackson Hole, WY - Delores Meister, Iowa City НМ The Nile at Aswan, Egypt - Gerry Solomons, Iowa City Magic Kindom Las Vegas, NV - Ty Smith, Mitchell HM Sundogs at Sunset (CA) - Pat Schwope, St Paul HM 33 entries from 7 clubs. Judging Club: Cedar Rapids Judges: SuAnn Tichy, John Chadima, Regina Kotowske. Comments: Some required information was missing from paperwork.

PJ Prints

1st Here Come the Pitch - John Larson, Shutterbug 2nd Letting Them Run - Bob Lahti, Duluth-Superior 3rd Incoming - Joe Kubala, Duluth-Superior 8 Little, 9 Little, 10 Little Tourists - Dwight Tomes, Des HM HM Breaking Rope - Scott Thomson, Duluth-Superior HM Eight Seconds Including "Hang Time" - Steve Paulson, Sioux City 25 entries from 7 clubs. Judging Club: Iowa City. Chair: Wilford Yoder. Judges: Bob Rude, Randy Moyer, Ed Lorson. Comments: Nice variety, good action shots. Judges broke ties to select the top six.

PJ Projected Images

Frigid Frolic at the Polar Plunge - Angela Carroll, Lincoln

Snow Plow Train - Nick Lucy, Dubuque Mable Takes Flight - Greg Hoglund, Topeka 3rd

I hate you. I hate you! - Terry Kruse, Des HM Moines

Morning Commute - Dave Bair, Sioux Falls HM

Special Olympics Determination - Ann Hegstrom, South-HM western Iowa Shutterbugs 82 entries from 16 clubs. Judging Club: Iowa City. Chair: Wilford Yoder. Judges: Cecil Organ, Larry Luebbert, Herb Proudfit. Comments: Nice group of entries, many action shots. The judges had 2 days to look at the entires before the judging at the meeting. They had their comments and some preliminary judging done vefore the meeting so the judging went smoothly and quick. There were 80 digital images and two slides entered.

Panorama Print (Annual)

1st A Ray of Sunshine - Ed Siems, Central Iowa

2nd Mainstreet: Night & Day - Ann Hegstrom, Southwestern Iowa Shutterbugs

Big Sky - Mike Walsh, Sioux City 3rd

Multnomah - Terry Kruse, Des Moines HM

The Woods Are Lovely, Dark & Deep - Steve Paulson, HM Sioux City

Grand Opening Sioux City Ford - Ron Nicolls, Sioux City HM 19 entries, Judging Club; Springbrook, Chair; Curt Stoever. Judges: Lynda Richards, Gene Schwope, Jo Eland.

N4C February (2011-02) Contest Results

Following is a corrected list of winners for the February PJ Contests.

 1st Run Away Win - Bob Rasmus, Sioux City 2nd That's Gonna Hurt - Steve Paulson, Sioux City 3rd Find the Helo - Jane Heinecke, Duluth-Superior HM Cement Plant Worker - Joe Kubala, Duluth-Superior HM Putting the Sails Away - JoAnn Kuntemeier, Kaposia Kamera Club [Judging Club: Lidgerwood . Chair: Rosalie Dallman. Judges: John Kannenberg, Dan Frolek, Allen Costain.] 	 A New Way to Eat Dirt - Joni Tauzell, Duluth-Superior Breaking Wind - Geoffrey Barr, Fargo-Moorhead Next Time I Ride - David Slaybaugh, Fargo-Moorhead Balloon Race - Lois Pancratz, Dubuque Pulling to Win - John Anderson, Minnesota Valley Photography Club OOP's - Daryl Hurley, Topeka [76 entries from 23 clubs. Judging Club: Lidgerwood . Chair: Rosalie Dallman. Judges: John Kannenberg, Dan Frolek, Allen Costain.]

WHAT you MISSED at SPRINGBROOK......

(published as "Springbrook N4C Camp In 2011" in Women's Color Photo Club News and Views) By Linda Rutherford

The N4C Conference held April 29, 30, & May 1 at Springbrook Campus near Guthrie, Iowa, began Friday afternoon with the N4C board meeting and we learned there will be a digital photo-travel category starting with the 2012-2013 year. In that year all projected images could be combined in one open category or be required to compete with digital images. Medium format slides are being eliminated. Decreasing the number of poorly entered contests makes more room for digital contests.

Gerry and Hope Solomons presented a travelogue on Asia for the evening program. Gene Schwope reported on the PSA camera council contest. This is a worldwide contest in which each council enters the best images in competition from the past year. N4C placed 2nd overall and 1st in the print division! The evening finished up with Ken Johnson talking about geotagging photos. Digital cameras these days come with the functionality to embed latitude and longitude into the photo's exif data (file info) and is useful to show where a photo was taken.

Saturday found early risers out photographing the sunrise and the many deer in the park and let me add that we had gorgeous weather all weekend. After breakfast there was a presentation on entering and conducting an N4C contest. It is important that standardized lighting is used by all clubs when judging prints. Ed Siems made several portable light stands for judging prints selling for ten dollars for the club representatives to purchase. David Graham gave a hilarious presentation on over-priced photostuff. He even made his own gimbal mount. Just look in a catalog and find out how much these cost.

There were breakout sessions on creating photo essays using a Mac or PC software. Jo Eland presented great tips for Mac users. We had time to do some photography before being served dinner. Besides flower arrangements under studio lights, there were many other still-life setups.

The N4C fall conference will be held in Topeka, Kansas, September 9, 10, and 11. Ty Smedes showed his recent songbird photos and Mike Landwehr gave a talk on bird photography basics. The evening finished with a presentation on restoring old family photos for a genealogy presentation.

Springbrook 2011 had a record turnout of 94 attendees, 26 of which were first-timers! It was announced that Chippewa Falls Camera Club has joined N4C. The dates for next year!s N4C Springbrook conference are April 27, 28, and 29. Be sure to write these dates on your calendar. I will be submitting future articles on what I learned at Springbrook.

Panorama Print Winners on the Web

A panorama print contest was held at the April N4C Springbrook weekend gathering. There were 19 beautiful entries. If you have stitched together one of these monsters you realize the difficulty in viewing them in all their glory. It may not be as awe-some as the prints, however the ability to zoom in and look at the detail is possible on the web. The winners are on the web gallery. http://n4c.us/panorama_print_2011.htm

The Zoomify viewer is a way to see the full resolution. Zoomify Express is a free program which breaks a photo into tiles and creates the files needed for uploading to the web.

Ken Johnson, N4C Webmaster

Best of N4C Winner Roundup for Fall Topeka Convention

The deadline for receiving eligible entries for the Annual Convention Contest at Topeka, KS has been set.

First, Second, Third Place and Honorable Mention winners in all categories of the 2010-2011 monthly contests are eligible to be judged in the Annual Best of N4C Contest. Merit Award winners are NOT eligible.

Topeka Camera Club has established the deadline.

Entries must be received by July 1, 2011.

Eligible Digital Slide entries have been saved 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.

Print, 2x2 slide, and 2 1/4 slide winning entries are to be sent to:

Topeka Camera Club Scott Udey 829 SW Orleans St. Topeka KS 66606 scottbudey@earthlink.net 785-235-2416

Lists are being sent to clubs having eligible slide and print entries. A list will be sent out in early May of all qualifying entries from the September through April contests so you can start the roundup. Later, a final list will be sent which will also include May winners. Lists will be sent by email to Club Presidents and N4C Representatives. Contact Jerry Bonsack bonsack@centurytel.net or 608-781-1582 if someone in your club has not seen a list by May 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 10 along with Photographer of the Year, Clubs of the Year and other awards.

Thanks go to all the entrants, clubs, judges, and contest chairs. We will judge around 5,900 photos this year! Thanks also to Mary Jane Charlton who has kept the records of winners during the year.

Margaret Alton-Herr

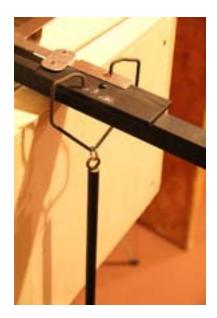
Former N4C member Margaret Alton-Herr died Tuesday April 12,2011

N4C members that remember Margaret.....

Margaret "Margie" Alton-Herr, 94, of Iowa City died Tuesday, April 12, 2011, at her home on her birthday. Memorial services are pending for some time in May to be announced later. Gay & Ciha Funeral and Cremation Services is caring for Margie's family and her arrangements.

To see her obituary go to http://www.press-citizen.com/article/20110421/NEWS02/1042103199 Margaret-Alton-Herr;

Submitted by Wilford Yoder



Several people were interested in how the multi-point pendulum was set up at Springbrook. The inverted "V" and lower pivot points give the lower portion of the pendulum the mobility to swing in circles versus the straight line. By moving the upper tips, one can change the swing from a square pattern to a clam shell to a rectangle, combinations are endless, that is why I have one of the points on a movable resting point.

Gerald Bonsack

Photodex ProShow Discount on Software for Creating Slideshows

Photodex has provided 20% N4C discount coupons for their products and upgrades. This includes ProShow Gold normally \$79.99 would be \$64 or Producer normally \$269.95 would be \$215.96 www.photodex.com . If you already own these and wish to upgrade, check the Photodex website under "Store" menu for upgrades and loyalty program. This software runs only with a Windows operating system.

Email Ken Johnson web@n4c.us with your N4C Member Number and he will reply with a Coupon.

Ken recommends downloading the fully functional software from the website and trying it. Look for an excellent eBook style manual under the support menu. When you purchase the key for the software, the demo banner will be removed from shows. The coupon code is needed before purchasing to receive the discount.

Tips for making shows and burning them to DVD's are available for download. Go to the N4C website "Meetings" page (http://n4c.us/meetings.htm) and scroll down to items under Springbrook 2011.

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