



North Central Camera Club Council

N4C January 2025 News Bulletin

Volume 61 No. 70 www.n4c.us



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Greetings!

We have been seeing some amazing photography coming in for competitions. Keep up the great work. One of the competitions that will change this year will be the Panorama division. This will be a digital contest moving forward due to not having the spring convention.

(1) Panorama contest will be a digital contest happening once a year. (2) One image per person and one image per email. (3) should be a minimum ratio of 2:1 (4) the file size should be a minimum of 5mb and a maximum of 25mb (5) judging will be done in May.

Images should be sent to Ed Siems or Panorama Chair by May 15th (with May submissions). Submissions should send a *separate* email to confirm that submissions were sent so he can confirm. We will post a reminder in April about this contest but it is never too early to get things ready.

Please join us for a N4C meeting online on Sunday, January 19th at 6pm. Send an email to n4ccameraclub@gmail.com to be sent the Zoom link.

We welcome all N4C members to share their thoughts about the N4C and what it can become in the future. We will be discussing the Spring and Fall conventions and more as time allows.

Happy Lunar New Year for the Year of the Snake. I am a snake married to an ox. If you are lucky enough to find a celebration near you, it is an amazing photographic opportunity. Google dragon dance to see what I am talking about. There is usually a celebration feast that goes with it.

Gung Hay Fat Choy,
Jennifer Tigges



Bulletin Editor Notes

1st Place Digital Images are still included in the N4C Bulletins. The N4C website <http://www.n4c.us> presents all the monthly Digital winners on page 1.

“Since prints are not shown on the website, I will present all the Print winners in each issue of the N4C Bulletin,” commented N4C Bulletin Editor Carl Hardy

Of course since N4C doesn’t have contests in December there are no Digital winners or Prints in this January issue.

Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends!

LINKS ARE AT THE END OF THIS BULLETIN FOR EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FROM N4C CLUBS WEBSITES. AND AN EDUCATIONAL ARTICLE.

Carl Hardy, N4C Bulletin Editor



Meet the N4C Board

Carl Hardy

N4C 2nd Vice President

Carl Hardy is a professional photographer. He is a 76-year-old male and retired with a D.J. and Photography business Good Times Entertainment Dynamic Images.

In 1985 he became a member of the Sioux City Camera Club and served as President from 1986 to 1988 and is currently the President again through 2024-25. He has been editor of the Sioux City Scope (SCCC Newsletter) for more than 36 years. He served as the Chairman of the 2024 N4C Convention at Ponca State Park.

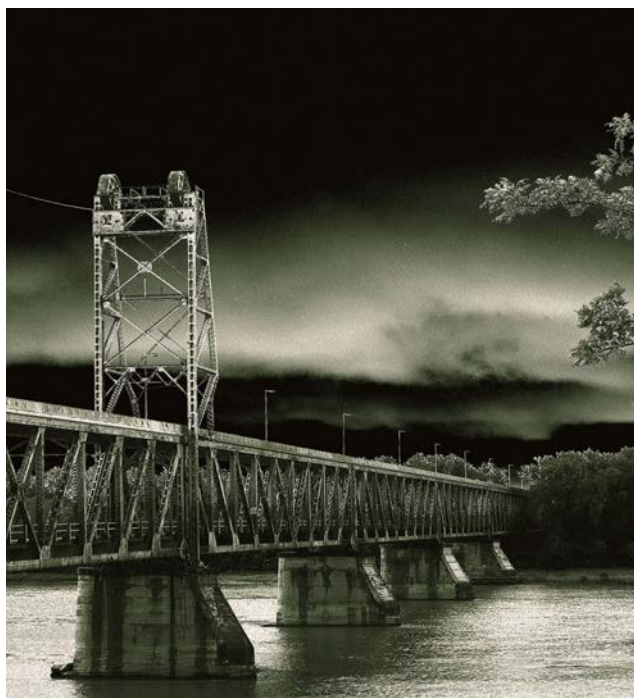
He is a long time member of North Central Camera Club Council and has risen up the ranks in N4C from Director 6 to the current N4C 2nd Vice President. He is currently the N4C Bulletin Editor and the Contest Chair for several N4C contests.

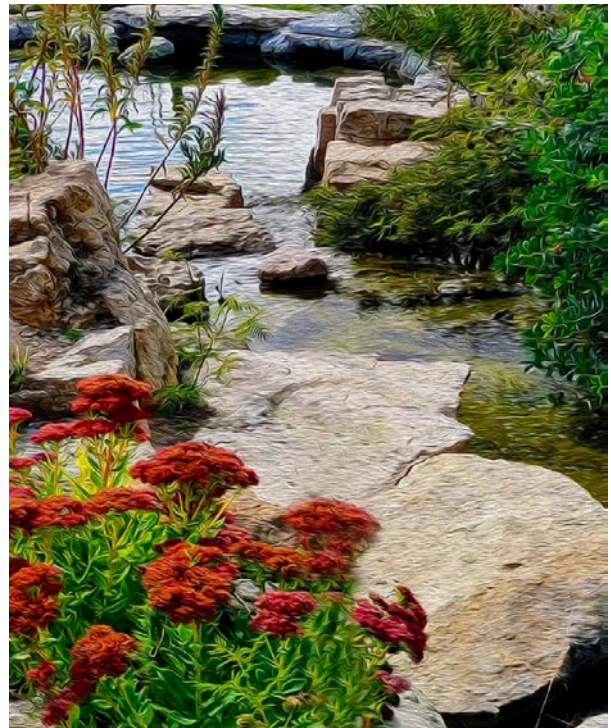
He is also a long time member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) as one of their newsletter/magazine judges.

Carl graduated in Journalism/Photography/Speech at West Texas State University in 1972 and studied special effect photography at Texas Tech University in their graduate program.

"Being a member of the Sioux City Camera Club has been one of my best experiences. I enjoy taking on responsibility for both the SCCC, North Central Camera Council and the PSA," said Hardy.

Carl enjoys a wide variety of photographic genres but is extremely interested in altered reality photography. He enjoys family, Photography, Good Times, a few beers, the Catholic Church, Music, Baseball, Hockey and Peach Pie.





N4C Contacts: SEND NEW MEMBER NUMBERS AND NAMES TO KEN JOHNSON

@ kandsjohnson@mchsi.com

HERE IS THE JANUARY ENTRY INFORMATION

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 like 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/>

N4C January 2025 Judging Clubs

DA

Iowa City Camera Club
Bob Rude
609 Sixth Avenue
Coralville, IA 52241
319-351-5741
sbrude@Q.com

DB

Shutterbug Camera Club
John F. Larson, Jr.
300 Lions Hill Road, Apt. W206
State College, PA 16803
319-671-1568
jflarson114@gmail.com

DJ

Omaha Camera Club
Nikki McDonald
802 E. Cary St.
Papillion, NE 68046
402-592-9555
OmahaN4C@cox.net

DN

Sioux City Camera Club
Carl Hardy
3236 Maplewood St.
Sioux City, IA 51104
712-281-3345
torchenterprises72@gmail.com

DP

Duluth-Superior Camera Club

Lucy Kragness

505 N. 4th Ave. W.

Duluth, MN 55806

218-348-0475

lucykragness@gmail.com

DT

Fargo Moorhead Camera Club

Bruce Bernstein

1505 - 8th St S

Fargo, ND 58103

701-235-5945

brucepamfargo@yahoo.com (correction for Directory)

Print Nature & Print B&W

SW Shutterbug Camera Club

Kim Walter

1559 210th Street

Corning, IA. 50841

712-621-1862

shutterbugsN4C@gmail.com

Print Color & Print Altered Reality

Minot Camera Club

City of Glenburn

C/O Tim Zeltinger

PO Box 97

Glenburn ND 58740

tzbugman@gmail.com

Print Travel & Print Journalism

Kuntemeier Camera Club

JoAnn Kuntemeier

536 Cedar Court

Taylors Falls, MN 55084

651-465-6827

joakun@midco.net

Sioux City Camera Club --- Mark Karrar Honored "Best of Show" in Nebraskaland Contest



Mark Karrar
"Moonscape"

2024 Photo Contest

While this year's entry format changed, the quality of images in the Nebraskaland Photo Contest did not. With the categories of Scenic, Wildlife, Recreation and Macro, it took hours to team down the winning images. But it was not without some debating, especially in the Macro and Wildlife categories where several worthy images didn't place.

This year's Best of Show winner, "Nebraska Moonscape," by Mark Karrar of Sioux City, Iowa, was taken at Toadstool Geologic Park in Sioux County.

"I went there because it is considered to be a dark sky area with little light pollution, and I had always wanted to photograph the Milky Way. This was my first attempt."

And a good attempt it was.

We thank everyone who participated in this year's contest and look forward to seeing our wonderful state through your eyes next year.

Happy shooting.

Jeff Kurrus, Editor
Nebraskaland Magazine

BEST OF SHOW

Nebraska Moonscape
Photo by Mark Karrar, Sioux City, Iowa

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Photo Basics By Jack Vanden Heuvel North Iowa Camera Club

I am often asked to explain basic questions in photography. In response to some of these questions, here are some of the basics.

f stops and Shutter Speed go together:

What is an f stop anyway, people ask. An f stop is how large the aperture in your lens is open. That is, how big is the hole open to let the light in. Proper exposure is determined by the combination of how big the f stop is, with how long the hole is open. How long the hole is open to let the light in, is your shutter speed. For example, a common combination is f /8 at 250th of a second. Anytime you read the information about a photo, if it has information about exposure, it will give you those two things: the f stop, and the shutter speed.

The amount of light coming in the lens gets halved each time the main f stop goes higher. In other words, as you go to a higher f number, the hole gets smaller. Here are the main f stops: f /2.8, 4, 5.6, 8, 11, 16, 22. That means that when you go from f /22 to f /16, twice the light gets through that hole to make your photo. When you go from f /16 to f /11, you get twice more light, etc.

The main shutter speeds are 1/8, 1/15, 1/30, 1/60, 1/125, 1/250, 1/500, 1/1000, etc. The main shutter speeds are basically opening the aperture half as long (time wise) as you go higher. What this means is that you get the exact same exposure if you shoot a photo with the combination f /8 at 1/250th of a second, as you would with the combination of f/ 5.6 at 1/500th of a second, or again the combination of f /4 at 1/1000th of a second. In each case you choose an f number to let more light in, so you need to choose a shutter speed to balance that by giving less time for the light to come in.

Automatic cameras do this all for you. The nice thing is that many cameras let you choose either the shutter speed (shutter priority, TV on Canon) or the f number (aperture priority, AV on Canon) and the camera will automatically set the other one for you. Easy!

These photos show you what learning the **Photo Basics** can help with quality photography.



How do I know what f stop to use?

The smaller the f stop hole is, the more is in focus. The area in focus is called the “depth of field.” Note, the larger the actual number, such as f/22, the smaller the hole. A low number such as f/2.8 has a large hole for the light to come in, and less depth of field, that is, the less is in focus.

This means that if you want to take a picture of something like an individual tree leaf hanging from a low limb, and blur everything else out, you focus on the leaf with an f/4, and only the tree leaf will be in focus. On the other hand if you want to take a picture of the tree leaf and have everything in the background in focus too, then you use f/16.

How do I know what shutter speed to use?

If you use a shutter speed that is too slow, you will blur the photo, either because the camera moved while you took the photo, or because the subject moved while you took the photo.

For fast moving things such as sports photography, if you want to totally stop the action, you will have to use a shutter speed of at least 640th of a shutter speed. Same for a bird flying.

It also depends on the lens you are using. If you have a telephoto lens, you need a faster shutter speed to hand hold it. An important rule to remember, is whatever mm lens you are using, simply put a “1” over it, and you will have the minimum shutter speed needed to hand hold that lens without getting blur and bad focus. For example, if you have a wide angle lens of 28 mm, you can get by with hand holding it at 1/30th of a second. If you have a telephoto lens of 500mm, you need to at least use 1/500th of a second shutter speed. Now the Image Stabilization systems (Canon term IS) give you another two or three stops slower.

What about wide angle lenses?

Wide Angle lenses help you get more on the photo. For example, if you are in a small room, it is hard to get back far enough to do a group photo. A wide angle is just what you need. (Or, find a different place for the photo!) If you are in the mountains, you might find it frustrating that you cannot get the whole mountain on the photo. The Wide Angle helps you do that. Remember, though, that it pushes back the picture, so you are no longer close to it.

The big thing in wide angle photography to remember in doing landscapes especially, is to have something real close to anchor the shot. A big rock, boulder, flowers, leaves, or something.

What about Telephoto Lenses?

The big advantage of a telephoto lens is the excitement of pulling things close to you without having to go over there. For example, to get a close up of a deer walking in a meadow, or a candid of the face of a child (without getting too close to spoil their spontaneity), or to zoom in on a flower.

A wonderful advantage of telephoto lenses is also that by focusing on the subject, it throws everything else out of focus, and highlights your subject. If you do this through a Single Lens Reflex camera, you can see exactly what you are getting when you do it. This is great whether your subject is a flower and you blur the other flowers into a soft background, or a person’s head, blurring the background and making the person stand out strong.

What must I know about ISO settings? (See You Tube video)

ISO is the speed of the film, if you were shooting film. It is how “fast” the film is. On a digital camera, it works the same. A slow ISO is ISO 100. That is great for when things are not moving, and you have no great depth of field needs. But you need a faster ISO like 400 or 800 if you are shooting in low light, or you want to use a telephoto lens and

shoot at high shutter speeds. If you have a tripod, and nothing is moving, you can use ISO 100. One thing to remember, is that the higher the ISO, the grainier the pictures get. Don't go higher than you need to. ISO 400 is pretty safe with cameras with 8 meg. 200 is a bit better. 1600 is pushing it, and you will pay a price, even though it is better than getting a blurred picture. However this is changing. As of 2008 and 2009, cameras are coming out with much higher ISO numbers, with hardly any grain! Know how to change your ISO on the spot. [Automatic settings set the ISO for you] A common photo for me is with a wide angle lens, getting a lot of depth of field and a close anchor, I will shoot at f/22, demanding a tripod or a high ISO. Go to this You Tube video for help with higher ISO in modern cameras. **LOW LIGHT AND HIGH ISO PHOTOGRAPHY:** Do what the best low light photographers do!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYm2Mt9cEn8>

Why is a Flash unit so wonderful?

Anytime it is too dark, you need a flash. But I especially like flash as "fill flash." During the day, you can have your subject with their back to the sun, and then have your flash automatically fill in the shadows to balance the other light. That way your subject does not squint the eyes, and the hair stands out strong with backlighting, and there are no harsh shadows. Good flash units will let you manually back off your flash intensity by up to 2 f stops, to give you control over just what you want. Check your LCD to find out how it is working, as you take a photo! Instant feedback lets you adjust as you want. In the old days, you had to figure out things with a slide rule (almost) to know what to do, count of the yardage, etc. Now your camera does it automatically! Also play with bounce flash off ceilings, and putting a diffuser on your flash, etc. so it is not so harsh.

Where do I buy my Photo Supplies?

Many pros are very up front about where they go to buy their photo supplies. They go to B&H Photo. Find them on the web, or just call them up on the telephone for free, 1-800- 947-9953. You can find many other places to buy, but you never know who you are dealing with. Scott Kelby recommends B and H too!

What is a good magazine to subscribe to?

Outdoor Photographer is the best for nature photography. It is so exciting to read through an issue. The best nature photographers are featured here. But, I confess, I am into nature photography. There are many other choices for you if you are not into nature photography. When I get done reading this magazine, I just want to go out and shoot pictures! I have never talked to anyone disappointed by this magazine!

There are many good books on photography. Two I recommend highly, and give all kinds of interesting tips, is The Digital Photography Book: The step-by-step secrets for how to make your photos look like the pros!, by Scott Kelby, Volume 1, 2007, and Volume 2 in 2008. These books are excellent.

Have fun taking pictures!

GO TO THIS LINK FOR from the North Shore Camera Club link:

<https://photonaturalist.com/articles/>

GO TO THIS LINK FOR PHOTOSHOP ESSENTIALS:

www.photoshopessentials.com



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

Published Monthly and sent out via .pdf file. N4C is affiliated with the Photographic Society of America. N4C Bulletin Staff Editor/Publisher: Carl Hardy, torchenterprises72@gmail.com

E-Publisher: Carl Hardy, torchenterprises72@gmail.com

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