



North Central Camera Club Council

N4C September 2025 News Bulletin

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N4C Members,

Another summer has flown by in a flash. I hope you have had some time to connect with family and friends and exercise your camera as well. May your fall be dry, not windy and mild temperatures. We deserve it!

As we return to regular fall club meetings, I will outline a few things upcoming:

- September competitions- remember to contact your club members and start getting submissions together for both digital and print. If you are a judging club, reminder that constructive comments are appreciated, and you may keep them simple and brief. Please review all competition rules. Keep track of your submissions so there are not duplicates. Do not resubmit until you know for sure it is not a winning image.
- We will be having an online fall board meeting in September. See the information below for this ZOOM meeting.
- We will have an awards presentation online sometime in October or early November. We are still wrapping up some judging for a few of the categories. Best of luck to all who entered. Sounds like judging was a tough job yet again this year.

- Dues- as a reminder dues are up in September. Please use the online form and your numbers from May of 2025 to calculate dues and send them in as soon as possible to avoid loss of any winning competition points. <https://n4c.us/Supplies-Forms/N4CDuesNotice.pdf>
- N4C 2026 Fall Convention planning is going along smoothly - they have allowed me to be part of the planning process. Many cool things are coming to next year's convention. Mark your calendars and let your clubs know about October 9-11, 2026

N4C Fall Board Meeting will be September 23rd, 6-8pm Central Time Via Zoom
All N4C Members are welcome on this Zoom Meeting.

Topic: N4C Annual Board Meeting for the 2025-2026 Season

Time: September 23rd 06:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87472099424?pwd=NmrYchCvSEbUHpfSaUNmqBw3y5qNmF.1>

Meeting ID: 874 7209 9424

Passcode: 636736

Jennifer L Tigges, President N4C 2024-2025

563-590-9868 call or text

563-583-7128 voice only

Dubuque Camera Club



Bulletin Editor

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.

NOTE: There are no summer competitions. The N4C Best of 2024-2025 Digital Images and Prints are currently being judged. Since there is NO N4C Convention for 2025, a ZOOM Meeting will be held to show the N4C Best of 2024-2025 entries and winners. WATCH FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE ZOOM MEETING.

And the winners will also be shown in the N4C Bulletin as soon as the results are presented in the ZOOM MEETING.

Please look at the Omaha Camera Club Invitation to their 100 Year Celebration on page 9.

FOR EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FROM N4C CLUBS WEBSITES. SHOWING THE BEST OF THE BEST EDUCATIONAL ARTICLES. (1) AN ARTICLE ON NIGHTTIME PHOTOGRAPHY TIPS BY ROBIN RYAN, PAGES 13-17.

****The Educational LINKS ARE AT THE END OF THIS BULLETIN. (Best of the Best links)**

PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE REMARKABLE PROFILE AND IMAGES FROM N4C Secretary Sonja Hoglund, pages 3-7.

Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends!

Carl Hardy, N4C Bulletin Editor



Meet a N4C Board Member

Sonja Hoglund N4C Secretary

My name is Sonja (Lesline) Hoglund, and I am serving you as secretary of N4C. Photography is a lifelong journey. It has been my pleasure sharing my photography skills with my children and now my grandchildren. I love to see them excel with their photos in 4H through the county fair. It is my hope that at least one of them will continue to preserve our family history through photography.

We do not remember exactly when we joined Topeka Camera Club, we feel it was around 2005. It was not too long after that, I became Secretary/Treasurer of Topeka Camera Club and have held that position ever since. Once we started going to conventions we never stopped, at least not until they stopped. Our conventions were something we enjoyed twice a year. We loved learning new information about photography and learning new names and faces. In 2020 I became Director 6 and in 2023 I became N4C Secretary.

I grew up in Manhattan and graduated from Manhattan High School. Yes, I am a Kansas State fan though I only went there 1 year. I graduated with my BA in Mathematics from Washburn University, in Topeka. I went on and earned my Masters in Curriculum and Instruction at Baker University in Baldwin City, Kansas. I worked as a high school math teacher for 22 years, retiring in 2015.

I remember when I was 13, I marveled at my oldest Sister's Polaroid Camera. It was so cool to see your picture immediately. I could not afford a polaroid camera, so I asked for and received a Kodak Instamatic X15 for my 14th birthday. In 1977 I stepped up big time, I purchased a Canon AE1 film SLR camera. I loved taking pictures of my daughters as they were growing up. During that time, I actually took the pictures for my brother-in-law's wedding. Everything was going great until I realized when I changed my roll of film in a hurry, I did not get the new roll to catch and roll. I had taken more than 24 pictures, and it was still going. Oh no, I found the trouble and had to retake that set of pictures again. All was well and we got all the photos they wanted, whew!

When Greg and I married, we became a blended family of 4 daughters and 1 son. With having 5 children, the grandchildren just started flowing in. We have 21 grandchildren with the oldest being born in 1996 and the youngest in 2020. We feel quite blessed. Yet it does not stop there. We also have 6 great-grandchildren. Christmas is so much

fun spoiling all of them. Our time together has flown by so quickly and we feel blessed to have celebrated our 27th wedding anniversary.

As my children got older my interests in photography began to broaden. As a mom I became a sports photographer. I continue with this passion photographing our grandchildren playing soccer, basketball, baseball, track, golf, gymnastics, cheerleading and playing on the playground. In our spare time we like to travel. Travel photography has been very important to us and along the way I like to take macro pictures of flowers, birds, butterflies and interesting minute parts of nature.











Omaha Camera Club Membership Photo 1925



The Omaha Camera Club

100 Year Celebration

Come join us in the our celebration of the **Omaha Camera Club's** 100 years of continuous service to the community.

The **Club** is hosting an informal gathering at the **Hot Shops Art Center**¹ on Friday, September 12, 2025, from 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Anticipated attendance includes City of Omaha officials, local arts councils and associations, other area camera clubs, members of the press, and sponsors.

The **Club** provides an informal, friendly, and supportive environment for photographers at all levels of experience and with interests in all types of photographic imagery.

Learn more about the **Omaha Camera Club** and our 100 Year Celebration at

<https://www.omahacameraclub.net/>

¹ Hot Shops Art Center, 1301 Nicholas Street, Omaha, NE 68102

N4C Digital (& Print) Contacts,

A new contest season begins. 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 September 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 5:00 p.m. on the 15th, giving the judging chair time to organize the entries 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 were not received until late in the night on the 15th.

The 2025-2026 rules are on the N4C web at <http://n4c.us/competition.htm> by clicking the blue "N4C Contest Rules" button. A copy of the rules is attached.

The N4C Directory is available by email from Carl Hardy and his email is 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 and B&W version in the same month. Likewise, don't enter both Digital & print versions. 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 register them, so they are properly identified for the judging clubs. For new members, that really should be done a month before entering.

(Entries must be received by 5:00 pm September 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.

If you have any trouble reaching these judging clubs, let Ken Johnson know as soon as possible.

September Digital Image Judging Clubs:

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

Dubuque Camera Club

Cara Pusateri

3420 Saint Catherine Rd.

Bellevue, IA 52031

563-542-0380

cpusateri5@aol.com

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

Des Moines Camera Club

Janie Lawson

1381 NW 122nd St.

Clive, IA 50325

515-778-7277

DMCC.N4C.Digital@gmail.com

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

Duluth-Superior Camera Club

Lucy Kragness

505 N. 4th Ave. W.

Duluth, MN 55806

218-348-0475

lucykragness@gmail.com

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

Omaha Camera Club

Nikki McDonald

802 E. Cary St.

Papillion, NE 68046

402-592-9555

OmahaN4C@cox.net

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

Lincoln Camera Club
Oscar Sarafian
1218 S. 6th Street
Lincoln, NE 68502
402-450-1141
osarafian@hotmail.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.
300 Lions Hill Road, Apt. W206
State College, PA 16803
319-671-1568
jflarson114@gmail.com

SEND NEW MEMBER NUMBERS AND NAMES TO KEN JOHNSON

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.

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 September

Print contest rules are in the attached N4C Contest Rules.

Entries must be received by these clubs by September 15.

Because of experienced delays in mail and shipping, other clubs recommend that you also send an email to these judging clubs to expect your entries. Ideally, give them your tracking number.

Send both Nature Prints and Black & White to:

Topeka Camera Club
Greg Hoglund
2230 SW Kingsrow Road
Topeka, KS 66614
785-633-2384
greg.hoglund@sbcglobal.net

Send both Pictorial Color Prints and Altered Reality Prints to:

Saint Paul Camera Club
Terry Butler
1620 Wexford Way
Woodbury, MN 55125
612-270-1653
terrymjbutler@gmail.com

Send both Travel Prints and Journalism Prints to:

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

Ken Johnson web@n4c.us,
A Digital Contest Chair
Enjoy photography whether or not it is yours!

Night Photography Tips

A Post By: Robin Ryan

Over the last year I've become more and more enamored with night photography and the depth of colours offered by it. Today I'd like to share a few things I've learned with you and hear your thoughts on this diverse and fascinating style of photography.

What are our tools in night photography?

Tripod. While not always necessary (see further on for how to cheat on this), a tripod will give you the greatest flexibility to get the angles you need while keeping your camera steady for those long exposures.

Wide-angle lenses. This is a personal preference, but I love the way they work in night photography. I use Canon's 10-22mm f/3.5-4.5 (\$700), but if you can afford it I'd get the Canon 16-35mm f/2.8L II (\$1300). If both of these are out of your price range – don't worry! Try it out with whatever you've got as the only thing that will limit you is your imagination.

A lens hood. To minimize lens flares from light entering at angles outside of your frame.

A flashlight. Sometimes you'll want to draw attention to or simply lighten up an important part of the foreground which is too dark.

Our imagination. Tools lie all around us in everyday objects to help us make our work better in this; I've used bicycle lamps, lampposts and newspaper boxes to get it done.

The same composition rules that apply to day apply to night, except with night we have our long exposures to take advantage of. I've chosen a selection of my night work to illustrate some tricks of the trade:



Old World New World by Robin Ryan

The beautiful leading lines of Vancouver's Public Library make it a photogenic building any time of day, but the diminishing light and soft cast at night makes it an even more attractive subject. Notice the green lens flare in the top corner – this may have been avoided by removing the filter or having a faster shutter speed. The jury's out. This was a 30 second exposure at f/22.



Vancouver in the Night by Robin Ryan

Water is your friend in night work. It seeps up colour, softens it and adds a charming glow to your images. 10 seconds at f/11.



Lion's Gate Bridge by Robin Ryan

Again, see how the water brings more light into our images, sections out negative space and can create gorgeous symmetry. Another delight of night work is the way lights will fracture into stars on their own – no special effects here, just time. 25 seconds at f/22.



The Twilight Runner by Robin Ryan

I found myself in front of this statue wondering how on earth I could add the slightest detail to a part not facing a light source. It was a freezing night and I was biking around the park, so I took the headlamp off my bike, cupped it in my hands to make sure it wouldn't reach the lens, and pointed it at the throat and chest area of the statue. 30 seconds at f/22.



Okay, finally... another thing I love about night photography is that the only people in my shots are those who I want in them. Want to keep a figure recognizable? Shoot at a fast speed; want to blur that crowd or lose them entirely? Get that shutter speed to 10-30 seconds and watch them blur into obscurity. In this shot, an otherwise drab crowd of skaters has turned into a blur of figures that adds movement and life to an otherwise still image. A 1 second exposure at f/8 allowed me to blur the skaters while keeping still the crowd in the background.



Times Square by Robin Ryan

Remember when I said that tripods weren't always necessary? They aren't. The world's full of flat surfaces on which to perch or press your camera. Just make sure to use a timer (the jolt of your finger depressing the shutter can move your camera) and, if you are holding the camera against a vertical surface, keep the speed relatively quick (1/8 of a second to 2 seconds). This was 2.5 seconds at f/22.



The Rock ii by Robin Ryan

As always, look for unique angles. This shot of the Rockefeller Center in New York City catches just the top of it, showing off the interplay of light in the surrounding buildings. Tripodless, I turned on a 2-second timer, pressed my camera firmly against the base of a statue, and shot this one. 1/8 of a second at f/8.

Lastly, if shooting with a camera that has a form of Live View, use it! Live View is indispensable for nailing your focus, especially as you can do a digital zoom to manually adjust your focus. A tripod will be a big help for this. Simply turn on the live view, flick your lens to manual focus, and adjust your focus ring until you've got perfect focus.

I hope this article has encouraged you to get out tonight and see how beautifully-different our world is under the light of the moon and streetlamps.

Robin Ryan

is a Vancouver-based photographer who works with Breakfast Club of Canada to organize free breakfast programs for children in at-risk communities. When he isn't travelling through remote communities in British Columbia, you can find him exploring quiet mountain ranges in Alaska or the bustling streets of Madrid, never far from his camera.

GO TO THIS LINK FOR AN EXCELLENT PRESENTATION ON STORAGE BACKUP AND "THE CLOUD" FROM THE WESTERN WISCONSIN WEBSITE.

<https://wiphotoclub.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Storage-Backup-and-The-Cloud.pdf>

GO TO THIS LINK FOR AN EXCELLENT PRESENTATION ON DON TREDINNICK'S PHOTOGRAPHERS PLAYGROUND FROM THE MINNESOTA VALLEY PHOTOGRAPH CLUB WEBSITE.

<https://minnesotavalleyphotoclub.org/events/photographers-playground/>
and click on www.frozenhiker.com



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"Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends"