

Camera Club Organizations

N4C is the North Central Camera Club Council ... an organization of affiliated camera clubs in the upper mid-west. N4C sponsors two annual photography gatherings each year ... Springbrook Weekend and the annual N4C Convention. Springbrook occurs on the last weekend of April at the Springbrook State Park near Guthrie Center, Iowa. The annual N4C convention is held in early September of each year. Our camera club has hosted the N4C convention three times ... in 1969, 1988 and 2009. For more information on N4C, please contact www.n4c.us.

PSA is the Photographic Society of America? The Photographic Society of America is a national photography organization based in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. PSA sponsors a wide range of photography activities and competitions. PSA photo exhibitions are held across the United States and throughout the world each year. Several of our current members actively compete on this national and international level gaining competition acceptances ... building toward merit levels called star ratings. For more information on PSA, please contact www.psa-photo.org.

WACCO is the Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization. WACCO consists of nineteen camera clubs from Central and Southern Wisconsin. WACCO sponsors two major, multi-division photography contests in the fall and spring of each year. WACCO also sponsors a yearly photography trip involving club members from many of the WACCO affiliated camera clubs.



DULUTH-SUPERIOR CAMERA CLUB

MEMBER HANDBOOK

MEMBER:

*North Central Camera Club Council
Photographic Society of America
Wisconsin Area Camera Club Organization*

NCCCC CONVENTION HOST:

1969 – 1988 – 2009 - 2021

www.duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org



Meetings

The Duluth-Superior Camera Club is currently meeting at the Yellowjacket Union on the University of Wisconsin-Superior campus located at 1605 Catlin Ave, Superior, WI.

Calendar

Our club meets on the third Tuesday of each month during the months of September thru November and January thru May. Club dinners are held on the first Tuesday of December and June.

Dues

DSCC membership dues are as follows: \$30 per person, \$50 per couple, \$10 with valid college ID, and \$5 for high school students. Dues included in membership enables submission to N4C competitions.

Philosophy

The Duluth - Superior Camera Club comes together to actively share a love of photography. The club's purpose is to share that passion and at the same time grow in skill and knowledge, or, as stated in the club's constitution, for the "enjoyment, mastery, and furtherance of photography through cooperation, effort, and good fellowship."

Camera Club History

Camera Pictorialists of Duluth was in existence as early as 1933. The first president was Dr. Frank H. Connor. Dues were \$4 a year. Between 1934 and 1937, members changed the name to the Duluth Camera Club, which became the Duluth - Superior Camera Club in 1997. Over the years, the club has met in a number of places, some of which included darkroom areas for members to use. In 1965, our

camera club became affiliated with the North Central Camera Club Council (N4C) and has been an active member ever since.

What is Journalism photography?

Photojournalism means simply the telling of a story by the use of a picture. The type of photograph that one sees in the newspaper or magazine that depicts some event or activity is what is meant. The caption is important, but the best journalistic photographs tell their own stories and don't always need a caption. A good picture is, after all, worth more than a thousand words. An element of human interest is important and virtually essential for pictures to succeed in competition. Interest is paramount, but good composition and technique will often make the difference that decides the winners.

The only digital editing that is allowed must fit within the N4C definition for acceptable Photojournalism (or Nature images). In interest of credibility, photographs which misrepresent the truth, such as manipulation to alter the subject matter, or situations which are set up for the purpose of photography, are unacceptable. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged, combined or changed in any way that affects the integrity of the image content. No manipulation or modification is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene. No special effect filters can be added or applied, and any sharpening must appear natural.

ACCEPTABLE DIGITAL ADJUSTMENTS (Nature and PJ only)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Cropping | 9. Straightening |
| 2. Color Correction | 10. Reversing |
| 3. Overall brightness correction | 11. Contrast control |
| 4. White balance correction | 12. Noise reduction |
| 5. Flare reduction or removal | 13. Sharpening |
| 6. Saturation | 14. All adjustments |
| 7. Recovering shadow detail | must look |
| 8. Resizing | natural |

What is Altered Reality photography?

The primary distinction for the Altered Reality category is that the maker intends (and the viewer easily recognizes) that the image is not a representation of reality. The Altered Reality image must have a photographic base of the maker's own creation. Manipulation of the basic image or images can be done in camera and/or in computer. The use of brushes and textures made by others is allowed in Altered Reality, as is the use of software to create unusual effects. The makers of Altered Reality images should feel free to use a wide range of tools and resources, limited only by imagination.

What is Travel photography?

Travel implies going to some place other than one's customary environment, and photo-travel photography suggests the photographic depiction of that new environment or the means used to get there. There is no definition of how far away that environment must be to qualify as "travel" or how different that new environment must be.

However, the judges will generally award prizes to those photographs that depict more exotic and unfamiliar places, even though such places are "home" to someone. Good photographic technique and particularly the ability to convey the feeling and flavor of the place visited will help you be a winner. Try to emphasize the character that makes the place unique from other places. Be sure to state the name of the locale where the picture was made in the title of the slide or print.

Camera Club Outings

In the past, field trips were held to explore the area and sharing fellowship. The club met regularly with other clubs as far away as Saint Paul and Thunder Bay. Recently, members of the club will go on organized, planned outings at times, depending on leaders, date and cost. However, increasingly, last-minute outings have been happening.

Communication for these outings is normally via e-mail, Facebook and our website. The president and/or the Outings Chair will usually be the person to contact if you would like to go on an outing or you would like to lead one.

Camera Club Dinners

Regularly scheduled club meetings are not held in the months of December and June. Our club gathers for a holiday dinner on the first Tuesday in December and a spring dinner on the first Tuesday of June.

Noted regional photographers are asked to come and share their works with us as the guest speaker of the evening.

Camera Club Bulletin

Our club publishes the "Snapshot" newsletter each month via email distribution. The "Snapshot" provides meeting information, contest results and area photo opportunities and much more!

Please contact member services to add your name to the "Snapshot" newsletter email listing if you are not already receiving a copy!

Local Club Competitions

Our club holds seven local photo competitions each year during our regular club meetings. No local competitions are held during December, May and June.

The categories for each local competition are on our website and will have been announced at the Spring Banquet held the previous June.

Each member may submit 2 prints (no size restrictions) and 2 digital images for each monthly competition.

Digital images should follow the N4C format: 1920 pixels on the long side. Digital files should not exceed 750KB.

Digital files (including titles) should be uploaded via our website under Local Competition.

An experienced photographer with knowledge and understanding in judging will review all submissions, choose the winners prior to the meeting and then critique and offer his/her subjective opinion on the photos during the regular meeting.

Breaks

Treats are provided during each of the regularly scheduled camera club meetings. Camera club members are encouraged to sign-up for a particular meeting night to share a treat or sweet of their choice.

What is Pictorial photography?

In pictorial photography, the artistic quality of the presentation is emphasized. The subject itself is not restricted: All subjects qualify.

1. The Pictorial category is well-suited for use of modern digital techniques, including HDR, exposure blending, focus stacking, stitching, and related techniques that combine more than one image.
2. At the time of writing, computational photography is emerging as a rapidly growing field. The Pictorial category is receptive to the use of modern photographic techniques and innovations, provided the intent of the photograph is to present an artistic interpretation of recognizably real subjects.
3. Photos submitted in the pictorial category should be in color. Black & white photos that are pictorial in quality should be submitted in the Black & White category.

Pictorialism emphasizes beauty of subject matter, tonality, and composition as opposed to documentation. Thus, there is more freedom for artistic interpretation in pictorial photography than there is in Journalism, Nature, or Travel photography. Limited use of brushes and textures is allowed in Pictorial. Still, there is a clear effort to represent reality; this distinguishes the Pictorial category from Altered Reality.

What is Nature photography?

No photograph is worth the distress or injury to any wild creature.

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

The hand of man shall not be present in any nature entry except where wild birds or animals have invaded man's world such as fence posts and other manmade objects freely adapted for use by wild creatures.

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. Photographs taken at zoos, animal farms or game farms are acceptable as long as the setting remains natural and the hand of man is not visible.

Cultivated plants, domestic animals and pets are not acceptable and should be entered in other categories.

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.

N4C Monthly Contests

Digital Pictorial

Digital Nature

Digital Creative

Digital Journalism

Digital Travel

N4C digital entries should be ...

- 1920 pixels on the longest side ... either horizontal or vertical.
- 750 KB ... max. file size
- .jpeg format only

What Is Black and White Photography?

The Black & White category is similar in character to Pictorial, except that the Black & White category is for monochrome images. Images are limited to monochromatic hues or shades of gray, although filters may be applied to give a hue or tint. Different photographic processes and toners give a different hue to a black & white photograph, for example, selenium, sepia and split toning (duo-toning). No fraction of the image shall be given a special color treatment.

Prints

Prints may be commercially made or produced by the entrant. The following rules apply to prints.

Color Prints

Nature Prints (B&W or Color)

Black & White Prints

Journalism Prints

Altered Reality Prints

Travel Prints

N4C print entries should be ...

- Between 8 x 10 and 16 x 20 inches in size.
- Mat/mount should not exceed 16 x 20 inches.
- Journalism prints may not exceed 8 x 12 inches including mat/mount.

Mounting or matting of prints is no longer a requirement to enter any of the N4C print competitions.

Photo Essay contest – Annual contest held in April

Panoramic Print Contest – Annual contest held at mini spring convention

Camera Club Communication – Annual contest held in April

Local Contest: Judging Criteria

Impact

Impact is the viewer's initial response to a stimulating image. It's the "Wow!" or "I like that!" factor of an image. The response might be to the photographer's use of color or lines or shapes or contrast or texture or action, or even the subject itself. It is the immediate and most subjective of the three criteria.

Technique

Technique refers to how well the photographer uses any of the numerous photographic techniques (eg., focus, sharpness, detail, depth of field, color, selective focus, exposure, contrast, saturation, panning, etc.). Of course, photographers will not use all of these techniques in a photograph.

Composition

Composition is the art of placing subjects within a frame in a meaningful manner. Do you see the use of the Rule of Thirds (not an ironclad rule)? Vanishing point? A point of interest? Leading lines? The direction of light? Simplicity? Balance (symmetrical and asymmetrical)? Framing? Perspective?

Scoring

An experienced photographer with knowledge and understanding of judging will review all submissions, choose the winners prior to the meeting, and then critique and offer his/her subjective opinion on the photos during the regular meeting.

N4C Submissions & Returns

All digital N4C entries are due to Mike Miller at mtmiller1946@yahoo.com by the 10th of the month that the contest is held.

All print entries, for N4C monthly competitions, are collected at the previous month's regular camera club meeting.

Our club is eligible to send eight (8) digital and (16) print entries into each of the N4C sponsored monthly competitions.

All winning N4C entries are reviewed at the following month's regular camera club meeting after the competition is held.

All N4C entries receiving a first, second, third or honorable mention ribbon are then eligible for a "Best of the Best" competition. This competition takes place at the next N4C convention held the following September.

Annual May Member Showcase

The Annual May Showcase occurs at our last regularly scheduled club meeting in May of each year. This is a digital and print competition open to all club members.

A nationally recognized judge is obtained, to critique and share photo knowledge, while reviewing the entries during the May meeting.

Each member may enter up to five digital and five print entries. This is an open contest (pictorial) ... any subject matter ... Black and White or Color. Please limit print entries (including matting) to 12 x 18 or less. Deadline for entries to the Print and Slide show will be the regular camera club meeting held in March.

North Central Camera Club Council

Our camera club regularly submits entries to monthly photo competitions sponsored by N4C. N4C holds inter-club photo competitions in 13 categories. N4C members clubs are asked to judge a particular category of N4C competition in a given month. All member clubs will then submit that categories entries to that judging club for critique. We typically judge 1 to 3 N4C contests each year.

Digital images submitted for N4C competition should not be greater than 1920 pixels on the long dimension ... either horizontal or vertical. File sizes should not exceed 750KB. All digital files should be submitted in **.jpeg** format and sent to Mike Miller at mtmiller1946@yahoo.com. Digital N4C entries should be titled as follows ...

01,DJ,042,Duluth's Landmark

01 entry number
DJ042N4C ID number
DPcategory (digital pictorial)
Title of Image

All files should be submitted
in **.jpeg format** only.

N4C Digital Contests

DP Pictorial
DN Nature
DC Creative
DJ Journalism
DT Travel
DB Black & White

Your N4C identification number is issued when you joined the club.

Prints submitted to N4C competition may range in size from 8 x 10 thru 16 x 20. Matting may not exceed 16 x 20. Matting or mounting of prints is no longer required by N4C. Journalism prints are limited to a maximum size of 8 x 12 including the mounting/matting.

All N4C print entries must have the following information on the back of the print ... **title, category entered, members name, camera club and N4C identification number** ... in the upper left hand corner of the back of the print. Travel prints also require an indication of **location that the photograph was taken** to be included in the title of the image.

PSA Interclub

This digital competition is open to PSA member clubs and our club participates in Nature, Photojournalism and PID. Following each competition, the club standings are sent to participating clubs. This competition is held three (3) times each competition year, beginning in the fall. Deadline for competitions are November 15, February 15, and April 15. Any club that is a PSA member may choose to compete as a club, with awards going to individuals, and to the top three clubs with the highest accumulated points for the year.

Horizontal images will be no more than 1400 pixels wide or 1050 pixels tall. Vertical images will be no more than 1050 pixels tall. Save the file in jpeg format only. No limit on file size.

Submit your images to Matt Moses at matt@moses-images.com