



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

Meetings

The Duluth-Superior Camera Club currently meets at the **UW-Superior** Yellowjacket Union, Belknap and Catlin Ave., Superior, WI.

Calendar

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

Dues

The current dues for the Duluth-Superior Camera Club are \$ 30.00 per year. Dues will be prorated for new members joining part way through the camera club year (Sept thru June). Reduced dues apply to college and high school students.

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.

Camera Club Outings

In the past, field trips were held to explore our area and share 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. 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 Banquets

Regularly scheduled club meetings are not held in the months of December and June. Usually, our club gathers for a holiday banquet on the first Tuesday in December and a spring banquet 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.

Local Club Competitions

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

The categories for each local competition are normally 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 and should not exceed 750KB.

Digital files (including titles) should be sent to the DSCC website (duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org) by 12:00 noon on Friday prior to our regular camera club meeting. The **SUBMIT DIGITAL ENTRIES** tab appears on the home page of the DSCC website. Print entries should be submitted prior to the beginning of the regular meeting that night.

A camera club member will be selected to act as a judge for each of the local contests. Images may be scored using the club's scoring machine.

The judge may then select a small number of local contest entries to critique verbally once the scoring of the images has been completed.

Local contest/ N4C: 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 (such as 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 single 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

The Duluth-Superior camera club board has decided to remove scoring from our local competitions at this time. This was decided upon to take away the competition aspect of this activity. An experienced club member may be asked to verbally critique all local entries submitted during the monthly club 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 side...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,DJ042,DP,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

You will receive your N4C identification number after payment of club dues to the DSCC treasurer.

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.

N4C Monthly Digital Contests

(DP) Digital Pictorial
(DN) Digital Nature
(DA) Digital Altered Reality
(DJ) Digital Journalism
(DT) Digital Travel
(DB) Digital Black and White

N4C digital entries should be ...

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

Digital images may be of a smaller dimension and/or file size.

N4C Monthly Print Contests

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. Foam core is a good mounting medium.

Photo Essay contest Conducted in April only.

Panoramic Print Contest Conducted at Spring Mini-convention weekend only

What is Pictorial photography?

In pictorial photography concerns itself with the artistic quality of the presentation of the subject rather than with the subject itself. Literally, all subjects qualify, but since "Interest" accounts for one-third of the score, subjects that catch the viewer's eye will have the advantage.

The judges will be seeking answers to the question, "Did the photographer simply record the subject, or did he/she through the photographic process enhance the viewer's interest in the subject?" Pictorialism may be accomplished by meticulous photographic technique, proper presentation, careful composition, or most likely all of these factors.

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

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 title is important, but the best journalistic photographs tell their own stories and don't always need one. 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). 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 applied, and any sharpening must appear natural.

ACCEPTABLE DIGITAL ADJUSTMENTS (Nature and PJ only)

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

What is Travel photography?

Travel implies going to some place outside of your customary environment. 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 it must be.

However, 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. Try to emphasize the character that makes the place unique. Be sure to state the name of the state or country where the picture was made in the title.

What is Altered Reality photography?

Altered Reality photography is an opportunity for those who dare to explore the experimental and creative forms of photographic expression. These will include, but not be limited to derived images, ultra-high contrast, black light, bas-relief, solarization, multi-images, trick lenses and filters, and other ways to alter the image to produce a new abstract effect.

Just about anything goes. The important thing is the result, not the means to create it. This area of photography bridges between photographic realism and creative art. It is very difficult to judge and there are literally no rules to follow. Concentration on the form and color rather than detail in the image will help you succeed in this category.

Camera Club Organizations

N4C is the **North Central Camera Club Council**, an organization of affiliated camera clubs in the upper- Midwest. N4C sponsors two annual photography gatherings each year—the spring Mini-Convention and the annual N4C Convention. The Mini-convention occurs on the last weekend of April. 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. We are again scheduled for 2021. For more information about N4C, 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, resources 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 and building toward merit levels called star ratings. For more information on PSA, contact www.psa-photo.org.

WACCO is the **Wisconsin Area Camera Clubs Organization** consisting of 25 camera clubs throughout 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.