



Duluth - Superior Camera Club

Snapshot

The Duluth Superior Camera Club - Celebrating Photography Since 1933

January/February 2023 Issue 1



Gene Baerg

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DSCC 2022 - 2023 Leadership

President Joni Tazell	president@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
Vice President Amber Nichols	vicepresident@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
Treasurer Doug White	treasurer@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
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Committee Chairs

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David Kohne	
David Jensen	
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N4C Prints Doug Granholm	
Deb Carroll	
Publicity Amber Nichols	publicity@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org



Member of N4C since 1965



Member of PSA since 1956



Joe Kubala

I believe that my earliest interest in photography goes back to the eighth-grade at Cathedral School in Superior. I was blessed to encounter many talented instructors during my time at Cathedral. Mrs. Carol Rusch, Cathedral's eighth grade English instructor was the first to nurture an interest in photography in me. Mrs. Rusch taught a very advanced curriculum with respect to an eighth-grade education. One study section involved each student developing, writing and laying out a children's book. After the project was created and refined, each student was expected to present their prospective book projects to a national publishing house. During a yearbook and newspaper section, I was first provided a school camera and asked to photograph life as a student of Cathedral. Mrs. Rusch provided valuable input and criticism of my photography and advanced my skills rather quickly for my young age.



I believe that my first 35mm SLR camera was a Minolta XG-M. The Minolta SLR camera line of the time was very well made and very easy to use. I soon added a Minolta X-700 with an accessory motor drive allowing for action photography. One of my early favorite lenses was a Kiron 70-210mm manual focus lens. If I recall correctly, Kiron Corporation was an industrial lens maker that moved into the consumer lens business only for a short period of time. The Kiron 70 to 210mm had two focusing ring locks that opposed each other. If I was attempting to photograph a runner trying to steal second base, you could lock the near focus on first base and the far focus on second base. As the action unfolded, you simply rotated the focusing ring until it stopped ... with the focus now locked on second base. It was a unique lens feature that came in very handy in many different shooting situations. I currently carry two of the older Nikon AF camera bodies, the Nikon D-200 and D-300. Of the assortment of lenses that I have in my camera bag, I'd say that I again favor my Nikon 80-200mm / f2.8 AF lens above the rest.



My photography knowledge, skills and background increased readily during my time in the camera and photofinishing industries. During this time, I worked with Duluth Camera Exchange, Northern Photo Service and True Colors Studios. With Duluth Camera Exchange, I was assigned to their Miller Mall location and was mentored by a retail master ... Mr. Don Martens. Don taught me a great deal about the retail and photo industries, how to provide top notch customer service and continually encouraged further learning of all aspects of photography. I thoroughly enjoyed this time at DCX and am thankful for all the information and guidance that Don was so willing to give.

I would describe my favorite subjects to photograph as urban landscapes or perhaps postcard photography. I've enjoyed photographing after dark, interested to see the varied results due to length of exposure, clear or overcast skies, moon or no moon and so on. Of the different categories of competition that NCCCC and PSA offer, I most enjoy the photojournalism division. There was a period of time that I was very interested in sport photography and enjoyed the challenge of timing and anticipation to capture the right moment of a particular sporting event. The ball (or puck) must be present in the composition and the composition must portray motion and/or action (in a still image) to ultimately be effective. Like anything in life, my photography has ebbed and flowed over the years. After some prolonged time away from the camera, I started to initiate photo assignments for myself to force myself out the door to seek new images. For a period of time, I actively photographed the shipping activities within the Ports of Duluth and Superior. This required me to be at the Canal (or other location) at a specific point in time. After accumulating a small portfolio of shipping images, I decided to upload them to Marinetraffic.com. Like any form of social media, I enjoyed receiving comments from all over the world concerning my ship photography on the site. I frequently entered the Duluth Port Authority yearly photo calendar contest with no success. One year I received numerous inquiries from the Port Authority about one of my submissions. It was ultimately ruled out because the longshoremen pictured in the image weren't wearing the appropriate safety clothing. You can't win them all!



I am relatively competent with Photoshop when working on my photographic images. Typically, my Photoshop work is very basic, simply working on color correction, lighting and contrast of each image. I might be known in our camera club for my propensity to crop almost all compositions that I'm working with or evaluating as a judge. I tend to concentrate heavily on controlling the viewers eye movements within each composition that I'm working on. I tend not to print many of my images, so the overall shape of the photo is really not that important. I don't constrict myself to the typical print sizes when ordering prints of images.

I have been a member of the Duluth-Superior Camera Club since the early 1980's. During my tenure with our club, I've met and made friendships with many, many talented photographers over the years. I have fond memories of Mr. Hylmer Rykken who possessed an ability in the Black and White darkroom that easily rivaled that of Ansel Adams. I've held numerous offices within our camera club ... holding the office of President on two different occasions. I had the honor of being the Co-Chairman of the 2009 NCCCC Convention ... the last time NCCCC visited Duluth prior to our recent NCCCC convention.



I also began my involvement with the Photographic Society of America (PSA) sometime in the early 1980's. Membership in PSA has contributed much to my photography knowledge and experiences in many ways. For several years, I held the position of Administrator for the PSA Digital Dialogue #59 – Sports and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The PSA Digital Dialogue is a small critique group, typically five to seven members, that submit one monthly image for comments from the other members of the group. Group #59 concentrated on Sports photography and was comprised of some very rich talent with respect to the PSA members that were part of the group. Also, I held the coordinator position for the PSA Photojournalism Inter-Club Competition which was very similar in format to the PSA Inter-Club competitions that we enter today. This position involved recruiting member clubs to judge each round of the competition, setting a timetable for submissions judging completion and finally issuing the appropriate awards and recognition after each round of the competition.



Early on in my involvement with PSA, I also started submitting to PSA International competitions held across the USA and throughout the World for that matter. I've always believed that entering photo competitions is a great way to improve your eye, camera technique and overall composition. As you study the results of a PSA competition and which images rose to the top, you can gain a wealth of knowledge to take forward with in your future photographic activities. PSA has honored me with an Associate of PSA (APSA) recognition for my contributions to the PJ Division of PSA. Over the years of successes while entering PSA sponsored exhibitions, I have also achieved the rating of Proficiency in PSA (PPSA).

My best experiences though, as a member of PSA, have come on several occasions when I was asked to join a PSA judging panel for several large PSA International Exhibitions. I was honored to join DSCC members Bob Lahti and Scott Thomson, to judge the PSA Youth Showcase in 2014. I was simply amazed at the creativity of the next generation and equally surprised how hard it was to eventually pick out the top recognitions in a group of many fine examples of great photo concepts executed to perfection.



What does the future hold for me with respect to my personal photography? I've had a desire for some time now, to begin writing articles for possible publication, using my photography to illustrate the subject matter at hand. I have already pitched an article idea, with the editors of the PSA Journal, and received a nod of acceptance. It is time to get to work and fulfill this new goal of mine.

Joe

28th Annual **Lake Superior Magazine** Photo Contest Winners



This image was the winning cover chosen for Lake Superior Magazine's Feb/March 2023 Photo Contest issue! Their staff said it suggests serenity in its solitude, and they were taken with the halo around and sea smoke behind the lone tree.

Matt stated that it was taken during a sub-zero day along the shores of Lake Superior near Two Harbors. He captured this tree set against the wall of sea smoke just before sunrise.

Solo Tree Before Sunrise *Matt Moses*



Greetings from an American Integrity Crew Member *Paul Ranelli*

Honorable Mention

Category: Maritime

American Integrity came through the Duluth Harbor on January 5th, 2018, early afternoon. The sun was perfect, and a shipmate responded to my wave.

Upcoming DSCC Events

Tuesday, February 21st Educational Session - Macro Photography 6-9PM UWS
Tuesday, March 21st DSCC Regular meeting 7pm UWS & Zoom

Our first Duluth Superior Camera Club educational session will be on Tuesday, Feb 21st in Room 203 of the Yellowjacket Union on the campus of UWS in Superior, and on Zoom. **Bring your camera, lenses, tripods, and any object you would like to learn to take macro photos of.** David J and Paul Z will be leading us in a hands-on session.

We encourage non-members to join us for one or two of our meetings to check us out, and get a feel for the benefits of joining our group. As a paid member of the Duluth-Superior Camera Club, you'll be eligible to compete in our club competitions, as well as the PSA and N4C competitions; attend member only events, and access the resources available. Membership details can be found on our website. We look forward to meeting you!

Please keep up-to-date with email announcements in between our monthly meetings. You can also find up-to-date information on our website at www.duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org, or on our club's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/139459169412605.



Club Competition Schedule 2022 – 2023

September	Shadow Composition
October	Street Photography
November	Forest Magic
January	Everyday Objects
March	Still Life
May	Winter Paradise
July	Pattern
September	Weather
November	Member Showcase

Please check the DSCC website <https://www.duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org/> for detailed information regarding entering images for our local competitions and challenges, N4C, or PSA competitions. You may submit digital images to <https://www.duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org/competition/submit-digital-entries/> The deadline for club competition digital entries is the Thursday before a regular meeting. You may bring prints to any meetings. You must be a paid member of the Duluth Superior Camera Club in order to participate in any club competition.

Critique Group is a great opportunity to improve your images and enjoy the comradery of fellow photographers. Bring two or three prints (preferred) or your laptop/tablet and meet us at 6:30 on the first Wednesday of the month. Space is limited, so be sure to secure your spot and get on the mailing list for more meeting info by contacting Brian at critique@hbrstudios.com. He will send out location specifics prior to the meeting.

Field Trips are being planned with details to come. If you have any ideas or requests, please contact Pam Brumfield, David Kohne, or David Jensen.

New DSCC 2023 Schedule

January

Regular club meeting Jan 17th Room 203 UWS 7pm
Club Competition - Everyday Objects
Presentation by David J on Macro

February

Class on Still Life & Macro Paul Z & David J Feb 21st UWS 6-9pm

March

Regular club meeting March 21st UWS 7pm
Club Competition - Still Life

April

Class - Portraits - location to be announced
Outing: Winter outdoors

May

Regular club meeting May 16th UWS 7pm
Club competition - Winter Paradise
Presentation by Amber on Marketing Photography

June

Outing in Canal Park featuring Lake Superior Art Glass & patterns

July

Regular club meeting July 18th UWS 7pm
Club competition - Pattern
Presentation on Weather Photography

August

Outing featuring Weather/Sky/Lightning

September

Regular club meeting September 19th UWS 7pm
Club competition - Weather

October

Class by David J on Printing, Mounting, and Presentation Oct 17th UWS
Seminar on Professional Printing

November

Regular club meeting Nov 21st UWS 7pm
End of Year Showcase
Presentation on the Night Sky

December

Outing featuring the Night Sky/Astrophotography
Class on Night Sky/Astro Post-Production/Stacking

January Club Competition “Everyday Objects”

First Place 42/45

**David Jensen
Nailed**

“Good use of black and white and depth of field.”

“Good use of depth of field and choice to go black and white with this image. Very sharp in picking up the details of the nails.”

“Outstanding work. Not sure if it is nails or ice, but it doesn't matter. Part of the mystery is guessing what it is. Great use of depth of field.”



Second Place 41/45

**David Jensen
Vision**

“This photo shows a lot of thought about the lighting, and the increased contrast adds to the overall impact. The amount of time you’ve put into this photo is obvious!”

“Nice use of lighting to create the shadows. Nice composition. The light spot on the glasses themselves is distracting.”

“Excellent graphic image that packs a punch. Hard to know if another viewpoint would add or detract from it. Love the use of shadows.”



Third Place 39/45

Laurie McShane
Best time of the day...

“The hands holding the cup make a huge impact; perfect use of black and white; tack sharp; impactful interpretation of the challenge.”

“Composition takes me from the right hand to the left hand with ease. Nice capture of the steam of the drink. Very well done.”

“Great job capturing the steam? on the cup. Composition would do better off center. “



David Jensen

Camera: Fuji GFX 100s

Lenses: TamronSP 70-200mm f 2.8Di & Tamron EF 70-300mm f 4-5.6

Lenses adapted using a Fringer EF-GF.

Some incredible images have been made at Stoney Point and Park Point! Both locations have underwater ledges which help create good waves, making them popular spots to go. Wind strength and direction are factors in determining success for the surfers, and once a wave pattern sets up it might last for 2-3 days before subsiding.

Advanced Street Photography Tips to Get You to the Next Level

A Post By: James Maher

In photography, teaching and learning can only get you so far. At some point, you will get to a skill level where it's up to you to put in the time and effort to continue improving. However, dedication and self-learning aside, here are some advanced street photography tips that I think can help you significantly improve your skill level in this area.

1. Use your eyes instead of the viewfinder

When photographing, it is very common for people to look straight into the viewfinder and forget about the world around them, but this can make street photography tougher. Your vision through the viewfinder is hindered significantly, and that can hurt your ability to capture spontaneous moments. You need to see everything that is happening around you. This will help you to anticipate the special moments that are about to occur in front of your camera.

Your eyes are the real viewfinder, and you will be able to notice much more if you use them. Scan the area and look for subjects that are both near and far. Wait until you notice something with your eyes, then put your viewfinder to your eye to capture the moment. If you start with your head in the viewfinder, by the time the moment happens, your ability to notice it will be a half-second too slow.



2. Embrace spontaneity

This was one of the early tips that Garry Winogrand received in his photography education that set him on a path to become one of the most renowned photographers of all time. You should certainly spend a lot of time thinking about your work and what you like to shoot, but when you are out there going through the motions, embrace your gut feelings. Instead of worrying about every little detail and thinking about if you are doing a good job or not, put that all aside and have fun. There is no need to worry about what other people will think. If you feel like there might be a chance for a good photograph, then go for it, no matter how weird the image may be. Don't let your brain talk you out of it. That gut feeling exists for a reason, so use it to your advantage. If you use your instincts and shoot confidently, that will show in your photographs. They will feel more real and more you. Of course, you will probably take more bad photographs as well, but the good ones will be that much better. Trust your gut. Keep in mind that some people may take this suggestion too far and machine-gun fire their camera every time they have an inkling that there's a good photograph. That's taking this tip too far. Turn off continuous shooting and make sure that you are able to recognize and capture the moment with a shot or two.

Emotion and gesture



As photographers, our job is to pass on an idea or an emotion to the viewers of our work. How you do that is something for you to figure out. Search for feeling and emotion when you are shooting. Aim to create evocative photographs.

If you are photographing people, it is important to capture them when they are portraying an emotion. This can be shown in a facial expression, what they are doing, or the **gesture of their body**. Sometimes, you will capture a unique looking person with no emotion or gesture and that will ruin the photograph. Other times, you will capture someone that you did not think would be a good subject, but the emotion shown on their face make the entire photograph. When you photograph people, this emotion is vital to focus on.

Zone focusing

Zone focusing is the toughest technical skill to learn in street photography, but it is very important to learn. At first, you will screw up a lot of photographs, but over time it becomes a more accurate way of obtaining sharp photographs.

Zone focusing works particularly well in busy areas, but it can be used any time once you get good at it. I tend to zone focus 60% of the time and autofocus the rest. If your subject isn't moving and you have time to autofocus, it is always good to do that as it will guarantee perfect focus. But the rest of the time zone focusing can be the way to go.

What is zone focusing and how is it done?

This strategy of zone focusing is basically just using manual focus your camera and guessing the distance to subjects. Because of this, you will need a distance meter on either your lens or in your camera. You then want to turn your camera (or lens) to manual focus. Set the focus at a certain distance away from the camera. I prefer 8-10 feet, although I will do a smaller distance if I'm in a really busy area where people are closer together. Next, figure out how far that distance is away from your camera, and now you know that everything at that distance away from you will be sharp. Zone focusing can be done well at very large apertures, even $f/2$, but it becomes much more difficult to do well. This focusing strategy works much better with apertures of $f/16$, $f/11$, and $f/8$ and a wide-angle lens such as 35mm. That will ensure there is a large depth of field in your image (make sure to also raise your ISO to achieve this and still keep an adequately fast shutter speed). Thus, there will be a significant area both in front and behind of the spot that you are focused on that will all be in sharp focus. This helps for situations where you miscalculate the distance when the perfect moment happens and it's not exactly where you are focused, and when you have multiple subjects at different distances that you want to be relatively sharp.

This is why it is always good to start off zone focusing in bright sunlight with a wide-angle lens. This will allow you to shoot at $f/11$ or $f/16$ so that a lot of your image will be sharp and you will barely have to worry. Set your focus to 8 or 10 feet away and pay attention to your subjects more than your focusing. It is a very freeing feeling, and the extra time you save not having to focus will aid you in catching those spontaneous and instantaneous moments that appear before you.

James Maher - The Digital Photography School

News we can use...

The upcoming dates for the **New Moon** in 2023 are: Feb 20, March 21, April 20, May 19, June 18, July 17, August 16, Sept 14, Oct 14, Nov 13, and Dec 12th. Start planning!

N4C news:

The **Spring N4C Mini-Convention** is back! **April 28-30th, 2023** at Wesley Woods, Indianola, Iowa.

The **2023 N4C Convention "Blufftops & Backroads"** will be held **September 15-16, 2023** at the Best Western Plus Dubuque Hotel & Conference Center 3100 Dodge St. Dubuque, IA 52003 The Dubuque Camera Club is working on the details of the 2023 N4C Convention titled " Blufftops & Backroads" With a similar name to the 2018 convention that Dubuque hosted, we promise to shake things up a bit for this one. (Yes we are entertaining bringing back those models) There will be more hands-on opportunities and we will be exploring the neighboring states of Illinois and maybe Wisconsin too. Hotel rooms will be \$139 a night with a daily hot breakfast buffet included with the hotel stay.

For more information, please check the current N4C Bulletin.

The 49th annual **Birkebeiner** is the largest cross-country ski marathon in North America. Grab your camera and head on out to shoot this incredible event! The first wave of skiers departs Cable, Wis at 8:15am on Saturday, Feb 25th. More info at www.birkie.com

Check out the **Minnesota Landscape Arboretum** in Chaska, Mn for photography classes offered both on-line and in person. You can find a full list at arbedu@umn.edu



Tips For Taking Better Photos

David Kindervater



If you want to transform your photography from ordinary to extraordinary, change your perspective. Choose a different vantage point when you compose a picture. Try shooting from a low angle with the focus on the foreground of the picture, for a blurry background.

PSA Interclub Round 1 winners



Nature Interclub Competition

2022-2023

Round One, Group C

"Ice Stacks"

Matthew Moses

Duluth Superior Camera Club



Nancy Speaker, APSA, PPSA
PSA Interclub Director

Eric Notheisen
Nature Interclub Director

Honorable Mention



Photojournalism Interclub Competition

2022-2023

Round One, Group B

"Escaping the Scrum"

Matthew Moses

Duluth Superior Camera Club



Nancy Speaker, APSA, PPSA
PSA Interclub Director

Donna McFarland
PJ Interclub Director

Honorable Mention

The Duluth Superior Camera Club meeting was held January 17th, 2023 at UWS and on zoom. Twenty people were present and two were on zoom.

Amber presided, filling in for Joni. All current officers and committee chairs have been queried about their willingness to stay in their positions until December, in keeping with our new schedule. All agreed. The Nominating Committee will be making the nominations in October, voting will be in November, and the new term will begin in January 2024.

There was a business meeting last week, and the budget for outside speakers was discussed. The decision that was voted on was to allow Amber to offer up to \$250 per speaker, and if they requested more than that, to bring it to the Board for discussion. Three are needed.

Our club will be judging the N4C Digital Pictorial this month, and Amber, Joni, and Matt will judge 126 images. In March, David J, Amber, and Laurie will be judging Digital Travel.

We have the opportunity to exhibit our work at the Karpele Museum in September. David J is the contact.

We will be judging the WACO print circuit in May. Keep your eye out for more information regarding this as we can participate fully starting in November.

There is a field trip planned for this Saturday to the Beargrease Cub Run being held at the Two Harbors Golf Course. Check-in starts at 11am for them, with the first race at 1pm. If you would like to carpool, meet at 11am at the tourist center by Lester River.

The Lake Superior Ice Festival is on Barker's Island on Jan 27th and 28th.

The John Beargrease Sled Dog Marathon starts at Billy's Bar Jan 29th at 10am.

Doug presented the treasurer's report: in our checking account we have \$1987.76, Paypal \$863.58 for a total of \$2851.34.

There still are DSCC business cards available. Please check with Kathleen. Kathleen stated we currently have 46 members, and in appreciation of them, Kathleen gave a \$25 Kwik Trip gift card to a name picked out of an envelope - David J.

David K and Jim S spoke about the need to use caution at the Sax-Zim Bog. Snow conditions are such that it's easy to get stuck. There have been few owl sightings, but several evening grosbeaks and red polls. A moose and her baby have been seen several times.

The local club competition for January was "Everyday Objects".

There were 12 entries and 6 participants in Digital:

	1st Place David J;	2nd Place David J;	3rd Place Laurie
Print entries:	1st Place Jim S;	2nd Place Deb;	3rd Place Jim S

We had six N4C winning Digital images:

Merit awards: Paul, Jim W, Pam, Amber

Honorable Mention: Kathleen, Jim W

N4C print entries: Bob received two 1st Place and a Merit Award

If a person wins an award in N4C, they cannot resubmit that image.

Several members of our club were recognized by Destination Duluth last night. Hashtag your photos related to Duluth to Destination Duluth and perhaps they will feature them. Last year there were 91 million likes.

David J gave an interesting presentation on Macro Photography.

On Feb 21st, we will have our 1st educational meeting, presented by Paul and David J on macro. Bring your camera, lens that has the closest focusing ability and/or the one you use the most, and a tripod. Bring small items that you would like to photograph.

Respectfully submitted by Laurie McShane, DSCC Secretary

N4C RESULTS
NOVEMBER 2022
DULUTH SUPERIOR CAMERA CLUB

JOURNALISM
SCORES & COMMENTS FROM:
SIOUX FALLS CAMERA CLUB



Merit Award

22/27

Paul Zahorosky
Refuse

“Crop tighter. High impact and a interest to the viewer.”

BLACK & WHITE
SCORES & COMMENTS FROM:
DES MOINES CAMERA CLUB



Merit Award

25/27

Jim Walters
November mist

“Very good composition, exposure and interest.”

“Nicely haunting effect, turning what would be an average landscape composition into something much more captivating.”

NATURE
SCORES & COMMENTS FROM:
WESTERN WISCONSIN PHOTO CLUB



Honorable Mention

24 /27

Kathleen Wolleat
Framed By Fall

“Beautiful colors and nice composition.”

“I would like to see more detail in the dark areas. Eye is drawn to center of photo and black rock.”



Honorable Mention

23 /27

Jim Walters
Cape May Warbler

“Beautiful capture.”

“It could be improved if the entire front of the bird was in focus and sharp (including the lower leg and foot). Great capture of tiny and active bird!”



Merit Award

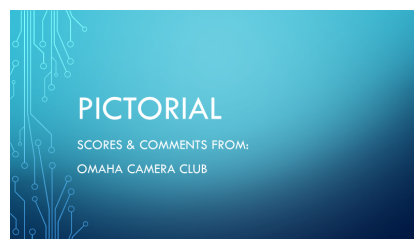
22/27

Pam Brumfield
Morning Snowfall

“Beautiful image!”

“Cute deer and nice moment.”

“There is green chromatic artifacts in the background and snow which distracts from the subject.”



Merit Award

38/45

Amber Nichols
Dancing in the train station

“Sharp, good exposure in difficult lighting.”

Image quality is not the product of a machine, but of the person who directs the machine, and there are no limits to imagination and expression.

Ansel Adams



Happy February!

As I was thinking about my message, I really was not coming up with much at all.

Then this morning, I was thinking about the upcoming Macro workshop and things I could bring and about what those things would mean to me. I have been working hard lately with my brand and matching my photography, surface design and crafting to my brand and vice versa.

It also got me thinking of the photographers that I know and how I can pick out their work. I think that photographers have a unique style and the more we see their work, the more we can pick out their work among a group of images. Brands or unique style draw us either closer to the photographer or pushes us further away, depending on our own personal style. For each unique style, there is something to learn. I wonder if you could pick out images of club members the next time we have a local competition. Are you able to pick out Jim W., Paul Z., Kathleen W., or Bob L. They all have a style (or signature, if you wish) that speaks of their images.

Perhaps in the upcoming weeks or months, you can choose one club member and find their style.

Joni