



Duluth - Superior Camera Club

Snapshot

The Duluth Superior Camera Club - Celebrating Photography Since 1933

September/October 2025



Alien Brian Rauwala

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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. Also, a new feature this year is a critiquing segment in our meetings, in which our members will have the opportunity to have an image evaluated by the group to offer suggestions to improve technique or approach. It's amazing what fresh eyes can see! There is a folder on our submissions page for these images.

You may submit digital images to

<https://www.duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org/competition/submit-digital-entries/>

The deadline for digital entries for club and N4C competitions is the 10th of the month. You may bring prints to any meetings. Our regular meetings are held the third Tuesday of the months September - May. You must be a paid member of the Duluth Superior Camera Club in order to participate in any club competition.

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.



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. Space is limited, so be sure to secure your spot and get on the mailing list for more meeting info by contacting Brian Rauvala at critique@hbrstudios.com. He will send out location specifics and the date/time prior to the meeting.

DSCC Club Competition July 2025

Patriotic Pride



First Place
40/45
Jim Walters
Pride

“The clouds nicely highlight the jets, and the flag is the consummate counterpoint in this superb image. You might consider cropping in on the left.”

“Amazing capture to have the jets going into the clouds and fits the patriotic theme with the flag in the foreground. Well done.”

“Eye catching! Not easy to catch considering the speed the Blue Angels diamond as it passes. Good tracking. I like that you exposed for the flag. Cropping is a little centered (not dead on). If we could crop the left side a bit more to cut off some of jet contrail (it draws the eye away from the image) It would make this almost square but I think it would work better. Still a very good image”.



Second Place

37/45

Douglas Keyport

Catelonía Pride, Besalu Spain.

2019

“The stunning reflection and moody sky really accentuate this beautiful scene.”

“Strong composition and capture of the reflection.”

“Cool. Great reflection for bright semi-sunny day. Exposure is spot on.”



Third Place

36/45

Jim Walters

Independence

“Great capture of the fireworks over our beloved Lift Bridge, but I would have liked to see this cropped in on both sides to put more emphasis on it.”

“Strong capture that fits the patriotic theme.”

“Good shot. Fireworks can be tough sometimes; either too soon or too late but you nailed this one! However there is what I feel is a cropping issue. the space on both sides is taking the eye away from the subject (the rocket burst). Crop both sides (maybe less on the right) sort does not totally center the burst. Still great timing on the burst.”

The annual **Rose Garden Meet-up** on July 23rd was a wonderful evening as always, even though the storms kept some from attending .



Tim Beaulier



Nancy Lindberg



Kathleen Wolleat



Paul Zahorosky

October to photographers is what April is to accountants.

Esquared Photography

Spencer Cox has written amazing articles for many photography publications. It is impossible to copy all the information on composition from this particular article into our newsletter, but reading over his table of contents gives you an idea of the scope. You can find the full article online at **Photography Life - 15 Composition Tips for Powerful Photography**.

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Refine Your Composition

*"If the light is doing something interesting to what's in front of you,
don't forget to turn around to see what it is doing to
whatever is behind you."*

Jay Maisel

DSCC Club Competition August 2025

Abandoned Places



First Place

38/45

Michelle Gransee

Bones of Bodie

“Lighting is very well done and it directs the viewer right to the exposed springs and worn pillow. The chair is a bit distracting at the angle it is in the image.”

“The color of the light seems to fit the idea of abandonment ... feels old, dusty and tired. It feels drawing back a little to take in the whole chair and bed might increase impact.”

“One might suggest reviewing their focusing point/ sharpness of the image. Unless intent was a soft image, it doesn't appear tack sharp.”



Second Place
38/45
Tim Ingersoll
Late for Dinner

“Nice lighting on both the refrigerator and wall/framed doorway. The framing of the stove brings the viewer into “the kitchen”. The use of black and white and color adds more depth to the image”

“The composition is striking with the window framing the old furnishing ... draws vision of feeling into the scene.”

“Nice technique of using b&w framing and use of softening (Orton effect?) the image.”



Third Place
36/45
Michelle Gransee
Miners Diner

“I like how the light hits perfectly on the table setting and broken seat of the chair. It seems flat.”

“Interesting mood created by having the light fade out as eye follows table into the distance. Loses details that might be of interest and moves image toward a minimalist image.”

“Nice use of leading lines. Transitional light values draws the observer into the image.”

On **August 9th**, several members of DSCC traveled to Wrenshall for the opportunity to photograph the amazing **sunflower fields of MK3 Farm**.

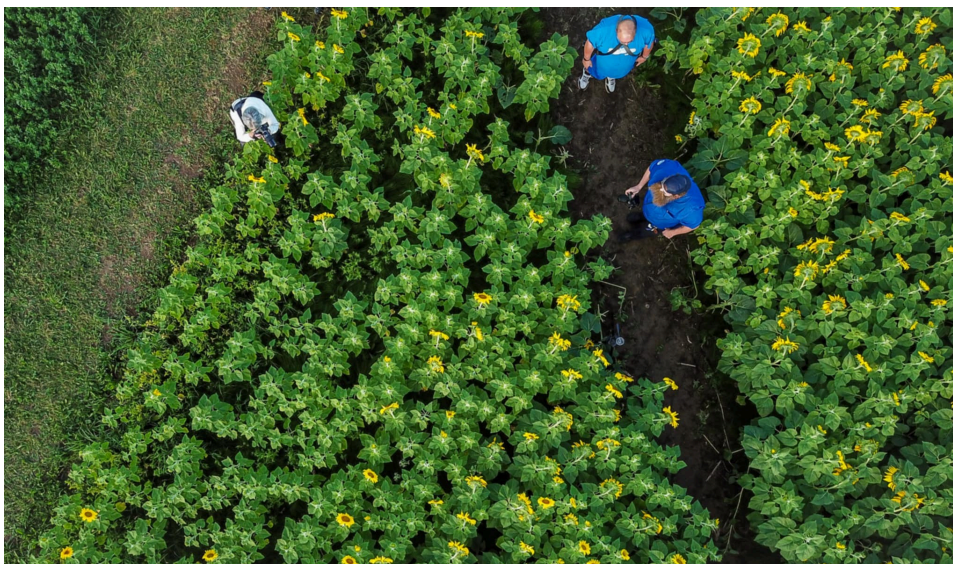
Kathleen Wolleat



Kevin Severson

Nancy Lindberg

We also were treated to the opportunity of shooting a 1959 Dodge Coronet, thanks to Randy



Randy Wolf

How to make a photo look moody?

AI Overview

To create moody photos, focus on using low lighting, dark color palettes, and strong contrasts between light and shadow. You can achieve this by shooting in dimly lit environments, utilizing directional light sources, and underexposing your images slightly. Post-processing can further enhance the moody atmosphere by adjusting exposure, contrast, and color.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

1. Lighting and Composition:

Directional Light:

Use a single, strong light source like a window or a spotlight to create dramatic shadows and highlights. This technique, known as *chiaroscuro*, is a hallmark of moody photography.

Low Light:

Shoot in darker settings or underexpose your images to create a sense of mystery and intrigue.

Dark Backgrounds:

Choose backgrounds that are darker than your subject to help isolate them and create a more dramatic effect.

Negative Fill:

Instead of relying on reflectors to fill in shadows, use a black reflector or umbrella to block out ambient light and create deeper shadows.

Proximity to Light:

Position your subject close to the light source to maximize contrast and shadow play.

2. Camera Settings:

Use a wider **aperture** (lower f-number, like f/2.8 or f/2.0) to let in more light and create a shallow depth of field, blurring the background and emphasizing your subject.

Keep your **ISO** low to minimize noise, especially in low-light situations. Adjust your **shutter speed** to control the amount of light entering your camera.

Use **exposure compensation** to slightly underexpose your images and achieve that dark, moody look.

3. Post-Processing:

- **Exposure:** Darken the overall exposure to enhance the mood.
- **Contrast:** Increase contrast to further define the shadows and highlights.
- **Color:** Use a dark color palette with muted tones and consider adding a subtle color grade to enhance the mood.

4. Other Tips:

- Experiment with angles and poses: Explore different perspectives and body positions to create interesting compositions.
 - Use props: Incorporate props that complement the mood you're trying to create.
 - Incorporate textures: Use textures in your subject or background to add depth and visual interest.
 - Shoot on cloudy days: Overcast skies can provide a soft, diffused light that is ideal for moody photography.
 - Look for atmospheric conditions: Fog, mist, or rain can add to the mood and atmosphere of your photos.
-



©tj beaulier

Tim Beaulier

*Photography is the only language that can be understood
anywhere in the world.*

Bruno Barbey

Duluth Superior Camera Club Business Meeting Notes 8/26/25

Members in attendance: Joni Tauzell, Jim Walters, Paul Zahorosky, Brian Rauvola, Kevin Severson, Kathleen Wolleat, Jim Koretz (JK), Amber Nichols

We are at 50 members in our club

Lucy K shared via email that she really needs backup for N4C digital. JK is ready to learn and he will reach out to Lucy and Mike M to set up a meeting to start learning the process.

*****Our club will be judging for N4C the following:**

September: Digital Journalism

January: Color Prints & Altered Prints

March: Digital Travel

Kathleen and Joni will be working on ordering 2 flags (similar to We're hiring ones you see) for added visibility.

We will be doing another Mobile Phone Photography class in November. With our experience with the first class that was 3 one hour classes and the team felt that we could condense into one 2 hour class.

Kathleen will be ordering more business cards for the club to take and hand out

Mike Mennes, former owner of First Photo in Duluth, has donated the last of his stash of camera club items that are now in several boxes in my garage. If you or anyone you know might be interested in looking through the boxes, please give me a call to come over to look 218-341-6055

Outings: Yes we are still having them!!!

We spent a lot of time discussing this topic and the biggest take away is this: We would like a club member to lead JUST ONE outing of your choice and it doesn't have to be from this list – preferably something or some place that you are passionate about going to and then invite the club for an outing. If you are going anyway – invite others to go with you.

October – Kathleen is setting up a trip to Crex Meadows and possible inclusion of the Franconia Sculpture park

November – Kevin Severson is setting up a trip to Split Rock for the lighting 50 years ago the Fitzgerald sunk

January – Amber is setting up a trip to Sax Zim Bog

Joni will reach out to the Haunted Ship and Fairlawn to see if the club can do an exclusive photo shoot

Brian will be reaching out to see if the club can do the “Bowels of the Aquarium

Other ideas presented were: Beargrease – starts Jan. 25

Lake Superior Ice Festival

Zoo

Thank you Jim Walters for your following list:

Night shooting

Full moon - moon rise aligned with interesting foreground

New moon - also check when moon rises or sets to get a couple hours without moon

Milky Way - especially when Galactic Core is visible

Star trails

Sunrise and sunset

City lights/State Parks and city parks both Minnesota and Wisconsin

Lost Falls, Cornucopia WI

Twin Falls, Port Wing WI

Morgan Falls, Marengo WI

Respectfully submitted by Joni Tazell
President, DSCC

Don't use your lights to illuminate the subject,
Use them to create shadows.

2025 DSCC Local Competition Themes

January	Forgotten Textures (capture worn, weathered surfaces)
February	Love in Focus (couples, flowers, heartfelt moments, etc)
March	Cityscape (day or night)
April	Symmetry (find balance in architecture or nature)
May	Water in Motion
June	Summer Sunrise/Sunset
July	Patriotic Pride
August	Abandoned Places
September	Golden Hour Portraits (human or animal)
October	Reflections
November	Moody Landscape
December	Annual Showcase

Upcoming DSCC 2025 Schedule

This year, our club will be judging the N4C Competitions in:

- January - Color Prints and Altered Prints
- March - Digital Travel

Members of DSCC will be presenting a class on Mobile Phone Photography in November. The dates will be sent out when finalized.

November 10th – Kevin Severson is setting up a trip to Split Rock for the 50th Anniversary of the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald. The ceremony will be at 4pm, after which the beacon will be lit in honor of those lost. Because of the size of the crowds expected for this event, it is suggested to get there very early.

Services for beloved DSCC member Henry Roberts will be held on Friday, Nov 7th at St Paul’s Episcopal Church, 1710 E Superior St, Duluth. Visitation starts at 12:00, and the service at 1:00 pm.

News we can use...

The upcoming 2025 dates for the **New Moon** are: Oct 21, Nov 19, and Dec 19.
The DSCC account balances are Paypal \$789.40, and checking \$1791.26.

Getting the most from you and your equipment

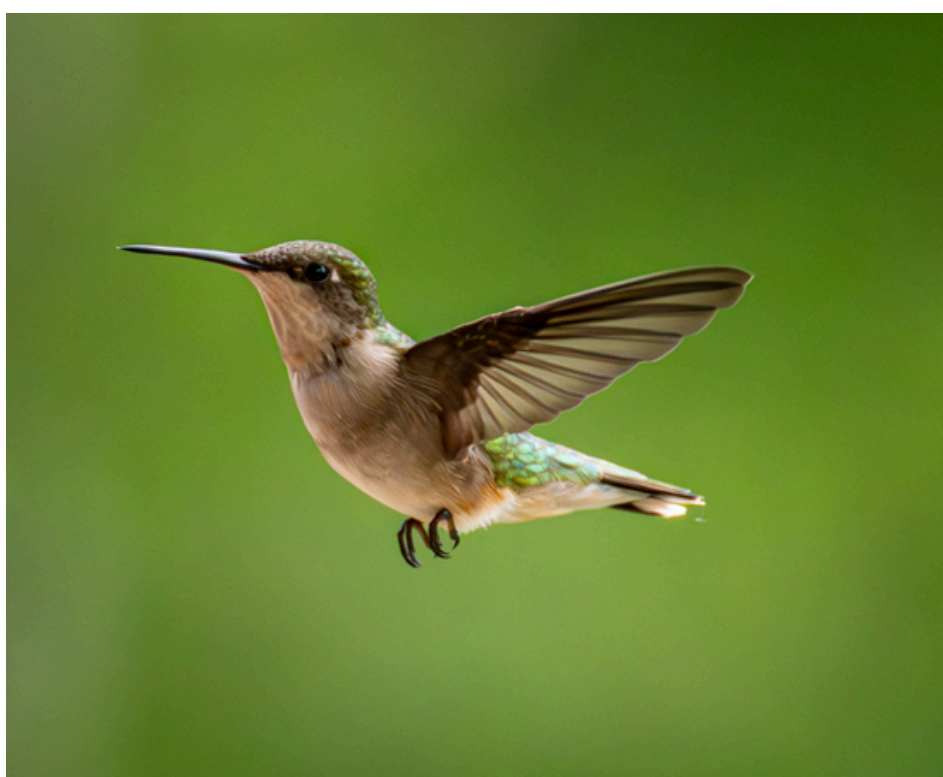
Jim Walters

I was trying to capture hummingbirds at a feeder on my porch but as anyone who has tried to photograph hummingbirds knows, they are fast and small. Shooting in continuous mode helps, but you still have a lot to think about. You have to experiment with how close the birds will allow. You also have to look at your lighting, framing and background. Do you shoot manual focus or autofocus and which autofocus setting to use? Same with exposure; manual, shutter priority or full auto. Is your lens long enough, sharp enough, do you have a teleconverter and is your camera a full frame sensor with the option to shoot in crop sensor mode? These are all the technical settings you have to practice and experiment with. The other thing to practice is your shooting technique. Holding a camera with a long lens can be difficult, especially waiting for a fast tiny bird.

So you have some pictures, now you also need to know how to process them to get the best image. Having properly exposed and sharp images gives some options to push beyond normal.

I wanted to fill the frame as much as possible and get some images with the wings frozen. My camera is Nikon Z mirrorless with the Nikon 100-400 f4.5-5.6 S lens. Adding a 1.4x teleconverter pushed that to 560mm at f8 and setting to crop sensor mode made that equivalent to 840mm. I was shooting in shutter priority with the shutter at 1/8000. The ISO was set to auto and went to 12800. AF was set to Dynamic.

With that setup the file was 15 MB. I cropped out the feeder and used the Lightroom Enhance Raw Details and Denoise at 70% ending up with a 46.6 MB file. Pretty good image after all that pushing and manipulating.



Jim Walters



Believe it or not, I have spent a lot of time thinking about relationships this past summer and early fall and NO, I'm not going to talk about my relationships or yours, though I have seen relationships grow in the club over time. I want to digress and go a different direction with relationships and photography.

I was reading an article about relationships in photography by Will MoneyMaker and was reminded about relationships with my subject. There is not just the relationship with the subject itself, rather there are multiple relationships going on with the subject. These might include the relationship of light and the subject, time and the subject and other elements that may make the image more interesting and appealing. Will talked about an old door in his article and as he has said that we have all seen many doors. What will make my door more appealing? What is the relationship of the door to the other elements surrounding it? Here is a quote from Will: "Relationships that can be developed between the subject and other elements in the frame are the most common – and easiest – relationships to set up." Unless you are taking very minimalist photographs, there are nearly always ways to show how objects play on each other.

Candid photography serves as a prime example. In these images, photographers often show the subject interacting with another person or object. What the person is doing in the frame – the relationship that he or she has with the people or things in the photograph – are what makes a candid photograph interesting. Always be aware of the ways in which the elements you are capturing can interact because these are the things that you can build upon to make images engaging. I tend to shy away from candid shots with people (just not my thing). I am more the landscape, nature photographer and am reminded that my subject has its own relationships with its surroundings and I have to absorb them and work with them in my photographs to make them more interesting and engaging.

Joni

The Duluth-Superior Camera Club met at UWS on Tuesday, September 16th with 16 members in attendance, and one on Zoom.

Amber gave us an interesting presentation on Light Painting.

There were not any results from N4C nor PSA at this time. Remember to submit images for N4C by the 10th of the months September - May (excluding Dec). You may submit one image per category per month for N4C. For PSA, submittals need to be in by Nov 10th, February 10th, and April 10th. N4C, PSA, and local competitions may all be submitted on our website under "Competition". Please remember that watermarks are not allowed in any competition. More detailed information is on our website.

The images for our DSCC competitions over the summer were presented.

July	Patriotic Pride	4 members submitted 8 entries
		1st Place Jim Walters
		2nd Place Doug Keyport
		3rd Place Jim Walters
August	Abandoned Places	8 members submitted 16 entries
		1st Place Michelle Gransee
		2nd Place Tim Ingersoll
		3rd Place Michelle Gransee
September	Golden Hour Portrait	4 members submitted 8 entries
		1st Place Kevin Severson
		2nd Place Jim Walters
		3rd Place Kevin Severson
		Bob won 1st Place in Prints

Jim W said that tonight will be a good night for shots of the Milky Way, and everyone is welcome to join him after the meeting at the Windmill on Hwy 13.

Joni said that she is waiting to hear from the folks with the Haunted Ship, in the hopes that we can go through it next week. She is also trying to get us scheduled during the Christmas season to visit Fairlawn.

Kevin is organizing a get-together at Splitrock on November 10th, when Split Rock will host its annual Edmund Fitzgerald Memorial Beacon Lighting..

Kathleen is setting up a meetup in Crex Meadow - perhaps coinciding with the full moon.

Amber is going to be setting up a meetup in Sax Zim in January.

There are classes planned for cell phone photography this winter.

Mike is planning an outing to West Duluth and/or Sandstone for ice climbing, and will let us know the dates when we are closer.

We don't have a Field Trip Chair at this time, so please let Joni know if you have an idea for an outing. Watch your emails for information on our outings!

Respectfully submitted by Laurie McShane
DSCC Secretary

DSCC Club Competition September 2025 Golden Hour Portraits (Human or Animal)



First Place

37/45

Kevin Severson

Ship coming into port

“Nice colors. I like the ship in the background which helps to give this photo the idea of the expansive area.”

“Stunning colors contrasted well with the shapes, with a nice placement of the silhouetted ship near the horizon. The angle of the main boat invites the viewer into the scene with the lights on the stern adding a nice touch, especially with the reflection in the water. A very pleasing composition. Sharp and well exposed with just enough detail in the main ship to add intrigue.”

Second Place

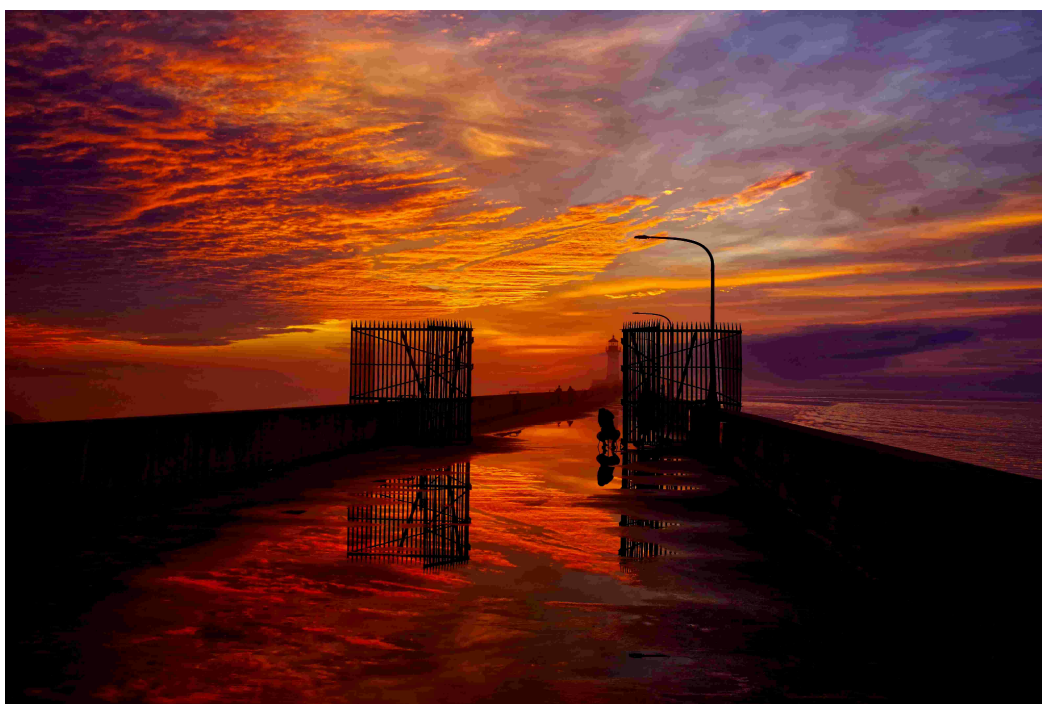
35/45

Jim Walters

Nap Time

“Clear sharp eyes. You can definitely tell it's the golden hour with the way the right side is showing the golden color of the rising/setting sun. Here's looking at you!”

“Nice warm light on this beauty. Placing the owl in the upper third of the frame enhances the feeling of height, matched well with the gaze down to the viewer. Well exposed and tack sharp. Nice to see the talons exposed to add a little extra to the impact. I will spare you my usual “bird on a stick” comments (sort of).”



Third Place

35/45

Kevin Severson

Predawn fog

“The people are just a tad bit dark, but love the one sitting taking photos (I'm guessing). Nice early morning color with clouds and reflections.”

“Impressive colors and cloud texture with the dark shapes and lines drawing you in. There is a mottled look to the gradients in the clouds, I assume from JPG compression, but may also be caused by overprocessing of a non-RAW image file (I would like to see the original). The lighthouse is tucked a bit too close to the gate structure for my taste.”

On **October 6th**, a number of DSCC members traveled to **Crex Meadows** for an afternoon and evening to shoot the beautiful Sand Hill cranes flying across the rising full moon. Mother Nature had other ideas, and clouds got in the way, however several beautiful images were captured.



Joni Tausell



Kathleen Wolleat



Watchful eyes on the sky



N4C RESULTS
SEPTEMBER 2025
DULUTH SUPERIOR CAMERA CLUB

TRAVEL
SCORES & COMMENTS FROM:
SHUTTERBUG CAMERA CLUB



Merit Award

23/27
Paul Zahorosky
Morocco at Epcot Orlando

No comments.

PICTORIAL
SCORES & COMMENTS FROM:
LINCOLN CAMERA CLUB



Merit Award

21/27
Laurie McShane
Outta my way kid

“Real smooth pan. Not the height of action.”

The Duluth-Superior Camera Club met at UWS on Tuesday, Oct. 21st with 25 members in attendance and two on Zoom.

A lovely slideshow tribute to Henry Roberts, who was a member of our club for approximately 30 years, was put together by Doug Granholm. A Memorial Service for Henry will be held on Friday, November 7th at 1:00pm, with a visitation beginning at 12:00 noon in St Paul's Episcopal Church, 1710 E Superior St, Duluth.

Brian gave an interesting presentation on the National Parks of the Pacific Northwest, after his recent trip out west.

Kevin spoke about the 50th anniversary of the Split Rock ceremony honoring the Edmund Fitzgerald. The program starts at 4pm, but because there are predicted to possibly be 2000 people there, he suggests arriving by noon if you'd like a place to park. Carpooling will be an option. Entrance to the park has been shut down in the past because of overcrowding. Joni will send out an email closer to the date with specifics.

Fairlawn will let Joni know when we can come for a meet-up after they are finished with their Christmas decorating.

Errol suggested looking up Esther Buble, the professional photographer who went to his high school in Phillips, Wi in the 1930's, and went on to national acclaim.

Judges for our monthly competitions should keep the topics in mind. The topic for November is Moody Landscape, and needs to be submitted by Nov 10th. The December holiday get together will be highlighted by the showcase - up to 5 images per person allowed on any topic that will need to be submitted by Nov 20th.

Deb and Doug presented the N4C Print Division winner. Bob won two 1st Place, and a 3rd.
Paul won a Merit Award in N4C Digital Travel, and Laurie won a Merit Award in N4C Digital Pictorial.

Matt said that the PSA competitions are just getting started for the year so there is nothing to report at this time. Nov 5th is the deadline to submit images in the Color, Black & White, and Nature categories.

The DSCC competition for October was on Reflections. Eleven members entered 22 images.

- 1st Place Anissa W
- 2nd Place Deb C
- 3rd Place Jim W

Respectfully submitted by Laurie McShane, DSCC Secretary

DSCC Club Competition October 2025 Reflections



First Place

38/45

Anissa Warner

Water break at the lake.

“Exceptional capture with strong composition and light control. Minor left-side highlight is a small distraction in an otherwise outstanding image.”

“Good one. Bug should be just a little less center left to right to improve the image.. I love the detail you got in the wings”

“Very nice capture!”



Second Place 38/45

Debora Carroll

Full Circle

“Natural symmetry works well. Try bolder framing from the right and left, for more of a square crop.”

“The bending tree and its reflection adds interest to its positive response.”

“DANG! That is a nice image. Exposure perfect and lines are great The bent branch completing the frame circle in the reflection is awesome”



Third Place 38/45

Jim Walters

Glensheen

“Clean, technically strong image of a familiar subject. All elements are handled well, though feels more documentary than interpretive.”

“Very nice and striking overall composition!”

“Great composition. Nice cloudy day lighting. The arch of the bridge over and under is great and the stream shows a great leading line”

DSCC 2025 Leadership

President Joni Tauzell	president@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
Vice President Brian Rauvola	vicepresident@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
Treasurer Amber Nichols	treasurer@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
Secretary Laurie McShane	secretary@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org

Committee Chairs

Membership Kathleen Wolleat	membership@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
Field Trips	fieldtrips@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
PSA Matt Moses	psa-contact@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
N4C Lucy Kragness JK Koretz	n4c-contact@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
Paul Zahorosky	competition@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org
N4C Prints Deb Carroll Doug Granholm	Website/Tech Support/Competition
Publicity Amber Nichols	publicity@duluthsuperiorcameraclub.org



Member of N4C since 1965



Member of PSA since 1956