

North Metro Photo Club

'Serving photographic enthusiasts of the North Metro suburbs in the Twin Cities area.'



North Metro Photo News – newsletter of North Metro Photo Club

June 2008

Potluck / Picnic

July 12, Saturday

4:00 pm

At Kathy Wall's
6020 West Bald Eagle Blvd.
White Bear Lake

rsvp would be appreciated to accommodate chairs, etc. Kathy will provide paper products and coffee

Bring a dish to share

Directions:

- Take I-694 East
- Keep left to take I-35E North via exit 47 toward Duluth.
- Take exit 120 toward County J (.2 miles)
- Turn right onto CR-J Ash St.
- Turn right onto Otter Lake Road / CR-60 (1.5 miles).
- Turn left onto CR H2 E / CR-5 (.5 miles).
- Turn left onto W. Bald Eagle Blvd / CR-149.
- Continue to follow W. Bald Eagle Blvd (1.5 miles).



Two notes as we break for the summer –

Print drop off points – There are three options for submitting prints for the August 21st competition. Bring/drop off your prints by August 5th to:

- Kathy Wall, 6020 W Bald Eagle Blvd, White Bear Lake. 651-426-6331
- Grace Schrunk, 950 113th Av NE, Blaine. 763-755-0575
- Or – Bring them to the July 12th picnic.

Dues are Due - North Metro Photo Club dues are due in May. Traditionally, those not paying by September 1st are no longer eligible for competitions. Dues can be paid at the August meeting, or mailed to the Treasurer (Fran Warzeha, 7124 – 88th Av. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55445). Annual dues are \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family.

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CALENDAR

Jul 12 (Saturday)
Potluck / Picnic at Kathy Wall's. See page 1 for more information.

Aug 21
Next regular meeting – 7:00 pm at St. Philips
Category: Prints – Open (color and monochrome)

Competitions & Contests

See www.cameracouncil.org for more information

Jul 1 Deadline for submitting images for the Crex Meadows Nature Photography weekend. See article at right and/or www.crexmeadows.org for more information.

Upcoming Events

Jul 9 (Wednesday)
Como Conservatory Artist and Camera Event
from 6:30-9:00pm. Tripods allowed. Cost: \$5.00 per person.

Aug 31 – Sep 6
PSA International Conference, Portland, Oregon.
See page 6 for more information.

Sept 25 – 28
N4C Annual Convention, held at the Airport Hilton in Bloomington, MN. Hosted by the Minnesota Valley Photo Club. See page 6 for more information

Deadline date for next newsletter:

July 21

(The next issue will come out in late July to remind you to submit your August images by the 5th and to kick off the new Club year.)

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Note from Walt: Walt has a new show at the library. If anyone plans to go to Grantsburg and enter the Crex Meadows photo competition (see article at right) it is well known that the best times for these nature shots are in the early morning. If people come up here and want to also see my show, and they do it on a Saturday morning the library closes at noon. I call my show A 'TRIANGULAR AFFAIR' because triangles are used to make my pinwheels and kaleidoscopes. (I also give a little lesson --- using photos --- on how it is done) At other times it might be best to call the library for their new summer hours. (715-463-2244) Located on 415 South Roberts St. His show will be up until July.

Crex Meadows Wildlife Area Photo / Exhibit Opportunity

All amateur photographers are invited to submit photos they have taken at Crex Meadows in a contest to be judged at a **Nature Photography Weekend August 2nd and 3rd, 2008.** There will be four categories; Birds, Other Wildlife, Wildflowers/Plants (Flora), and Landscapes (with or without people in the scene) and each category will be divided into Youth (17 and under) and Adults. **The photos must be submitted no later than July 1.** The photos will be displayed for voting at a Nature Photography Weekend August 2nd. See our website for contest rules and submission guidelines.

The Nature Photography Seminar will take place August 2nd and 3rd, 2008 at the Crex Meadows Wildlife Education and Visitor Center in Grantsburg, Wisconsin.

- Bring your digital cameras and learn how to best use them to take photos of wildlife and wildflowers.
- Experts will give presentations on basic digital camera skills and settings, photographing wildlife, and photographing wildflowers.
- Wisconsin DNR Wildlife Educator Chris Cold will be on hand with some owls and hawks to photograph, and time will be allotted for one-on-one hands-on learning.
- A free youth seminar will take place Saturday evening at 7:30 p.m., led by Unity High School Biology teacher and avid photographer Brian Collins.
- The Saturday evening keynote address will be given by Dudley Edmondson, a freelance nature photographer based out of Duluth, MN.

Reservations are required for this seminar, and a small fee will be charged. Please see the Crex Meadows website or call for more information.

Professional photographers and amateur videographers are invited to submit their photos and 10-minute videos to Crex Meadows to display during the Nature Photography Weekend.

Contact Crex Meadows at 715-463-2739 or website at www.crexmeadows.org.

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May 7th Board Meeting

A NMPC board meeting was held on May 7th to wrap up a few things for the Club year and to introduce the new board members to the workings of the Club. The agenda and discussion included:

- A projected budget as well as the current account balance was provided.
- Carol will audit the books during the summer hiatus.
- A printed Club handbook which most notably includes the by-laws and instructions on submitting images for monthly competitions. The handbook will be distributed to members via e-mail, put on the website, and hard copies will be available to those without internet access.
- Competition topics for the 2009-2010 year were discussed and determined. Topics are selected for two years to allow members plenty of time to capture images to fit the categories. Cards will be printed with the categories and be available at the May Banquet.
- The Club has been growing and may be outgrowing the space at St. Philips. A number of alternatives were discussed. It was decided to take a wait-and-see approach. If the Club continues to grow looking for larger space will come off the back burner.
- The possibility of changing the competition structure driven by the number of images being submitted was discussed. No changes will be made at this time.
- Kathy Wall has graciously offered to host a summer picnic in July (see page 1).
- A possible summer activity – i.e., a photo shoot at Crex Meadows (see page 2) was discussed. Nothing was decided on this issue.

Thanks to Missy for hosting the meeting as well as providing coffee and some treats.

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There are always two people in every picture: the photographer and the viewer.
– Ansel Adams

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How did they do that?

By Walt Fluegel

The 1918 “Human Statue of Liberty” photo has come to me via e-mail several times and each time I marvel and wonder “how did they do that?”

First of all, for those who have not seen it, the photo depicts thousands of military men arranged in such a way that when viewed from above, clearly resembles the famous statue. Liberty is holding the book and torch on high and has a spiky crown. Very impressive, but the nagging thought of “how” led to speculation and uninformed and uncontrolled imagination.

Here is where a little bit of knowledge is a dangerous thing as they say. First of all, I was influenced by the fact that the photo was taken at a military base. It looked like the photo of the men was taken from the air at a low angle with buildings in the background. Perspective and foreshortening had to be taken into account when placing the men into position. I speculated that during WW1 (1914 -18) aerial reconnaissance technology was being pioneered and this photo of military personnel required some planning on the ground and in the air.

The ground had to be marked. The men had to stand and know what to wear to show the folds in the garment of Liberty, and show the details of the torch and face and the spiky crown. I found that it took an hour and a half to assemble the men in 94 degree weather. It was my thought that once the men were assembled, it would be relatively easy for an airplane to take off with a photographer and his boxy Graflex camera aboard.

I wanted to be sure of my thoughts so I googled, “Human Statue of Liberty”. A moment later numerous images of the same photo I had seen in the e-mails popped into view. I also had many choices of references. The original photo had a caption concerning Camp Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa. In the narrowing down process to the Iowa National Guard web page, I learned that my speculations were only partly right. Yes, it took lots of time to position the men. It was on August 22, at 2:30 PM, 1918. Several men fainted in the summer heat. No, it was not an image taken by airplane, but from a 40 foot tower made especially for the purpose! The camera was an 11 X 14 view camera. It was a commercial venture by photographers Mole and Thomas, not a military photo. So much for speculation!

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The photo was made for distribution to the army and sold for \$1.00 an image. I don't have to speculate anymore. Now I know how they did it.

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News from Hawaii

By George Jensen

(Our long-standing member with the longest commute – he stays active in the club via e-mail and digital imaging.)

Potlucks and more potlucks – it seems the custom over here is to make every meeting, no matter what kind, a potluck. I have never been to so many potlucks in a single month in my life. I think the nickname "big island" will refer to the size of the inhabitants rather than the size of the island.

The Wailoa Center hosted a juried art contest and show for the month of May. There were over 500 entries from almost 200 people. Painters, sculptors, glass blowers, woodworkers, and photographers were represented. Two of my photographs of lava flows made the cut and are hanging in the gallery for the month of May.

A couple of weeks ago we had some excitement at my house. Blackjack, the cow that my neighbor grazes on the back half of my lot, figured out that he can get loose by chewing the rope in two. I happened to be working at the computer and looked out the window to see the cow strolling past my window heading towards my other neighbor's back yard. I hustled over to my neighbor's house and alerted him that the cow was loose in his back yard and together we spent the next half hour playing chase the cow. Since my neighbor has goats, he keeps grain around to feed them so he got a bucket and some of the grain and we were able to trick the cow to come to the bucket of grain. While my neighbor kept the cow busy with the grain, I chained him to a good tree with a heavy chain. The neighbor who owns the cow wasn't home at the time and was very surprised that the cow had gotten loose. I have never been on a cattle roundup before. Something new every day.

Volcanoes National Park changed my job this last week and added to the hours I put in up there now. Before, I was responsible for setting up and tearing down equipment used for concerts in the park and selling cds and T shirts during the concerts. Now I have been assigned to do basically the same job as the rangers at the visitor center. I can say that



I have never talked so much at one time in my entire life. When a cruise ship docks, we get hit with around 2000 people all at once. There are only three of us to handle that bunch so I end up answering questions (usually the same questions) non stop for 4 to 5 hours straight. By the end of the day, I am so hoarse that I can hardly talk. Next month we are supposed to get 5 or 6 new people so that will help with the load. The lava has been slowly rising in the new gas vent in Halemaumau Crater. Two weeks ago it was 300 feet from the surface. As of Monday May 12, it was only 100 feet from the surface. Everybody is watching it closely. If it erupts and once again makes the floor of Halemaumau a molten lava lake, there will be thousands of people flocking to see it. My boss has told me that if that happens, I will be put on full time which I really don't need. It's nice to have a few days in between to let my poor vocal chords rest.

The rainfall on all the islands except the side of Hawaii where I live are running way behind and they are putting water use restrictions on everybody. Because of all the rain we had a couple of months ago, our rainfall total is way ahead of normal but it has been dryer than normal the last few weeks. I haven't heard anybody complain here yet so I guess it is ok. At least we are not getting snow in the middle of May like some other places I know.

That's the news. Everybody have a great summer.

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What's Happening Around Here

by Grace E. Anderson Schrunk

I would like to mention a few highlights from the 25th Springbrook get together near Guthrie Center, Iowa, the last weekend in March. There were 63 camera club members in attendance for the three day weekend.

On Friday evening, an employee from the DNR spoke and showed a very interesting slide show about the bob cat population in Iowa. It is a requirement, for using the facilities, that we have a state representative give a program concerning Iowa and its natural resources. He made the two hours fly by, he was very interesting. He also sent around a skin of a bob cat, which was so soft and cuddly.

Ken Johnson, the self appointed guru of the digital world (well earned I might add), gave a two hour

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demonstration on how to put a digital show together. Ken explained it very well and it was easy to understand. Now the shows we see at our club don't seem like such a mystery anymore. In fact, the average person could do it with the proper software and a lot of time. He spent two hours to put together a two minute show. I asked him how much time he would spend at the computer for a ten minute show. He replied, "At least ten hours and sometimes more before a show is completed to my liking." Ken is a very patient and nice individual, and very willing to share his knowledge with anyone who yearns to know more about complexities of the digital age.

Someone has pointed out to me, when I complain about all the time spent at the computer for photography, how much time was spent in the darkroom changing something you didn't like about your photo and just plain being in the darkroom could run into many hours a day. Many times I spent six to eight hours in the darkened room at a time and never got tired of seeing my black and white photos come to life. If I'm not careful, I will be talking myself into a new computer and all the digital stuff that goes along with it.

There were 19 digital essays, some were presented on Saturday evening and the rest on Sunday morning. A few were very good and the rest not so good. I think it would be very interesting for our members to do a photo essay for our 15 minutes of fame portion of our program on the 5th Thursday of the month.

I came back from Springbrook on 169 and stopped at the Grotto of the Redemption which is on highway 15, west of 169 about 10 miles, in the town of West Bend. The Grotto is south of Fairmont, MN, probably 50 miles or so. I thought it was just beautiful. I really liked the story of how it came to be. They did not charge an admission which surprised me. I was the only one there except for the tour guide when a group of six young Harley riders roared into the parking lot. They were all in their late twenties or early thirties, I would guess, and they all wore the black leather riding gear which is what bikers wear, except for the dirty clothes and beards.

They asked me to take their picture next to the building with a camera phone. They told me, "We come here once a year." They all seemed like nice young men, but then, like my son Brad, has said more than once, "So did Ted Bundy."



It is always fun to see something you haven't seen before when you go on a trip, so the next time I go to an N4C get together, I will check the map and seek out a place I have heard about and would like to visit. In Boone, IA, there is an old train station that is worth checking out and in Winterset, IA, is the home of John Wayne.

Pythagoras used to say life resembles the Olympic Games; a few men strain their muscles to carry off a prize; others bring trinkets to sell to the crowd for a profit; and some are there are to seek no further advantage than to look at the show and see how and why everything is done. They are spectators of other men's lives in order to judge and manage their own.

Michel de Montaigne (1533-1592)

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Tidbits and Questions

Tid-bits: To make a straight line from point A to point B. Click point A move cursor (do not drag) to B, press shift key and click B. A line develops. On the Mac this is good for Clone tool, paint brush, pencil, eraser, and selection. WF

The following assumes knowledge of layers. (Photoshop Elements 3 on the Mac.)

To make a rectangle or square line "frame" show from behind the main object with a uniform background color. (Part of the line frame shows.) In LAYERS this line frame would be a lower layer but above background color and the layer images above would have transparency around them. Try this as a layer above your background color: 1) Use marquee at zero tolerance to make a square or rectangle. 2) Choose color compatible with main object. 3) Paint bucket the inside, but keep the marching ants. 4) Go to SELECT in the options bar, Select > modify > contract – choose maybe 15 to 30 or 40 pixels. When OK the marching ants invade the color you applied with the paint bucket. Either erase the inside of this new space with the magic eraser or apply paint bucket of the same color as background. Merge all layers. WF

Question: When I burn a disc the prompt asks something like ..."burn at 1X. I assume this is the default so I click OK. On the disc I see 52X. I don't know what the X means, in either case. Who knows the answer? My discs seem OK when I play them on the TV or have given them to others. WF

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**2008 PSA
70th Annual
International
Conference**



**August 31 – September 6
Portland Marriott Downtown
Waterfront Hotel
Portland, Oregon**

The Photographic Society of America offers an exciting lineup of programs and presenters, photo tours, workshops, and classes. Tours and technical classes (Photoshop, Adobe, and Pro Show Gold) run Sunday through Tuesday. Wednesday through Saturday includes 50 photo shows and presentations that run all day and into the evenings.

See: www.psa-photo.org for more information.

Register by June 30 and save \$25 on the registration fee.

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**2008
N4C Annual
Convention**



**September 25 – 28
Airport Hilton
Bloomington, Minnesota**

The event starts Thursday with a tour and tasting at the Flat Earth Brewing Company and some superb night photography. Friday includes a daytime field trip to photograph the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum followed by an evening banquet where you will have the opportunity to view the best of N4C. Saturday includes an array of interesting programs and seminars on a wide variety of topics with an evening banquet and year-end awards.

See: www.minnesotavalleyphotoclub.org and click on N4C 2008 for more information.

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2008 Year-End Awards

Photographer of the Year Awards

(based on total points accumulated
in Club monthly competitions)

Digital – Category: Open

Photographer of the Year	Vijay Karai
Runner Up	Walt Fluegel
3 rd Place	Jean McDonough
4 th Place	Jay Karai
5 th Place	Marian Beach

Digital – Category: Topic

Photographer of the Year	Jean McDonough
Runner Up	Vijay Karai
3 rd Place (tie)	Walt Fluegel Rachel Cain
4 th Place	Jay Karai
5 th Place	Carol Madison

Prints - Color

Photographer of the Year	Vijay Karai
Runner Up	Jay Karai
3 rd Place	Jean McDonough
4 th Place	Duane Wraalstad
5 th Place	Carol Madison

Prints – Monochrome

Photographer of the Year	Vijay Karai
Runner Up	Jay Karai
3 rd Place	Jean McDonough
4 th Place	Walt Fluegel
5 th Place	Rachel Cain

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Judge's Choice Awards

(selected from accepted images from
throughout the Club year)

Judge: Gary Eckhardt

Digital Images

Image of the Year	
Best Shot of Flowers	– Lance Nelson
1 st Award of Excellence	Bald Eagle – Carlos Nazareth
2 nd Award of Excellence	Old Blue Car – Rachel Cain
3 rd Award of Excellence	Monarch on a Coneflower – Jay Karai
4 th Award of Excellence	Snowy Bridge B&W – Terri Sposito

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**2008 Year-End Awards – continued
Judge’s Choice Awards**

5th Award of Excellence

Deer Hunter – Jerry Warzeha

6th Award of Excellence

Scary Fast – Tom Reich

Honorable Mentions:

- Demo Derby – Carol Madison
- Gazania-vert-line-copy – Walt Fluegel
- Puzzle Runners in the Hot Sun – Walt Fluegel
- 11th Street – Dennis Hoyne
- Landmark – Dennis Hoyne
- Fistucia in the Morning – Jay Karai
- Nutty Bird – Jay Karai
- Elk in Fog2 – Vijay Karai
- White Lily Flower – Jean McDonough
- Waiting in the Rain – Lance Nelson
- Cameras – Reid Rejsa
- Determination – Duane Wraalstad
- Northern Hawk Owl – Duane Wraalstad
- Rose – Duane Wraalstad
- Jag – Marian Beach
- Tea Rose – Gene Janssen
- Cloud Gate Chicago – Debbie Kippen

Prints – Color

Print of the Year

Looking Out – Jay Karai

Runner Up Print of the Year

2 Lotus Blossoms – Vijay Karai

Honorable Mentions:

- Fond of My Fawn – Jay Karai
- Two Zebras Nose to Nose – Jean McDonough
- Poppy Twirl – Walt Fluegel
- Yellow Iris – Duane Wraalstad



Best Shot of
Flowers



Prints – Monochrome

Print of the Year

Sangseeth – Vijay Karai

Runner Up Print of the Year

San Francisco Church – Jean McDonough

Honorable Mentions:

- Backlit Cactus – Vijay Karai
- Calla Lily and a Drop – Vijay Karai
- Yarn and Wood – Maxine Fluegel
- The Body of Sword – Jay Karai

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NMPC N4C Competition Results:

(Complete list included in monthly bulletin and winners posted at www.N4C.us)

Nothing to report.



North Metro Photo Club Information

Affiliated with: Twin City Area Council of Camera Clubs (TCACCC) – www.cameracouncil.org
 North Central Council of Camera Clubs (N4C) – www.N4C.us
 Photographic Society of America (PSA) – www.psa-photo.org

Where: St. Philips Lutheran Church, 6180 NE Hwy. 65, Fridley, MN.

When: 7:00 pm – third Thursday August thru May. (No June or July meeting, although a member often hosts a picnic/potluck.) Club also meets the fifth Thursday of each month that has five Thursdays.

Membership: Individual \$20.00 Family \$30.00
 Call Fran Warzeha for membership information (763) 425-7090

Newsletter:
 To receive the newsletter, call or e-mail Carol Madison at 763-781-2083, or carmadison@msn.com.

Website: www.northmetrophotoclub.org

President	Jean McDonough	(763) 574-1450
Vice President	Duane Wraalstad	(763) 755-5247
Treasurer	Fran Warzeha	(763) 425-7090
Secretary	Grace Schrunk	(763) 755-0575
Projected Images	Becky Janssen	(763) 425-9615
Prints	Kathy Wall	(651) 426-6331
N4C Coordinator	Grace Schrunk	(763) 755-0575
N4C Digital	Duane Wraalstad	(763) 755-5247
TCACCC Delegate	Jean McDonough	(763) 574-1450
Refreshments	Missy Mehner	(763) 427-8169
Webmaster	Jay Karai	(763) 757-6300
Newsletter Editor	Carol Madison	(763) 781-2083



North Metro Photo Club Competition Categories

Projected Image (Digital/Slide) Competition Categories

2008-2009 Season

August	Prints
September	Snow
October	Hand(s)
November	Vintage
December	Movement
January	Downtown
February	Backlit subject
March	Birds
April	An event
May	Year-End Banquet

2009-2010 Season

August	Prints
September	Nature
October	Food
November	Photojournalism
December	Creative Expression
January	Waterscape
February	Doors / Windows
March	People at Work
April	Fences
May	Year-End Banquet

Fifth Thursdays – Print competition / member 'slide' shows

Instructions

See your North Metro Photo Club Member Handbook for detailed instructions.

Submitting Images

Projected Image (Slide / Digital) Competitions – Images (digital and scanned slides) should be submitted by the 5th of the month to: northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com.

Print Competitions – Send / deliver prints to **Kathy Wall or Grace Schrunk** by the 5th of the month in August or those months with a Fifth Thursday meeting.

N4C Digital Competition Submissions

Send N4C digital images (one pictorial and one nature) to Duane at duanewraalstad@gmail.com by the 5th of the month (September through May). See your North Metro Photo Club Member Handbook for detailed instructions.

NorthMetroPhotoNews

4021 Benjamin Pl. N.E.
Columbia Heights, MN 55421