

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 **August 2008**

Volunteer Event

Here is your chance to see images from around the world in the Color Division International August 2. Please let Vijay know that you will be a volunteer for this event.

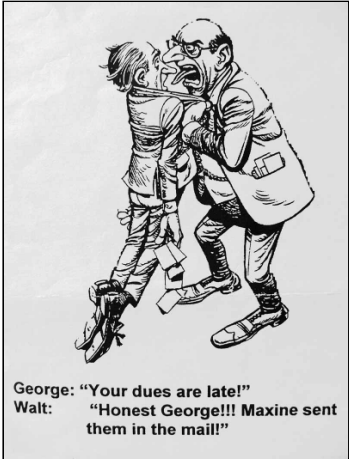
One of the division's CPID has endowed the running of their international to our own Mike Prokosh. This event will take place on August 2nd at Mike's church on Stillwater Blvd near Lake Elmo (more on that later). We have secured three eminent judges for this event, I am looking for about 7-10 volunteers to help. Please let me know if you would like to help ASAP. Your help is much appreciated.

Thanks. Vijay

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Dues are Due

Look what was found in the archives as a reminder to get your dues in. In August 1995 Dorothy Perkins was editor of the then **WIDE ANGLE NEWS** newsletter of the North Metro Photo Club. George Jensen was treasurer at the time too.



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 Treasurer (Fran Warzaha, 7124 – 88th Av. N., Brooklyn Park, MN 55445). Annual dues are \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family.

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Print Drop Off Points

There are two 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

Up to two color prints and up to two monochrome prints may be submitted for each print competition event.

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CALENDAR

Aug 21

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

Sep 18

Regular meeting – 7:00 pm at St. Philips
Category: Snow

Competitions & Contests

Jan 6, 2009

2009 Minneapolis-St. Paul Print Circuit entries due. See www.cameracouncil.org for more information

Upcoming Events

Thru Aug 17

'Timeless Beauty' – a photo exhibit of images by John Gregor. Shows the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum through the seasons, commemorating the Arboretum's 50/100-year anniversary. In the Arboretum's Oswald Center Reedy gallery.

Aug 19

World Photography Day.

Thru Sep 14

Friedlander Photography – on exhibit at the Target Galleries, Minneapolis Institute of Arts. A retrospective of photography Lee Friedlander's work.

Aug 2-3

Crex Meadows Nature Photography Weekend, Grantsburg, WI.

Aug 31 – Sep 6

PSA International Conference, Portland, Oregon. See page 4 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 4 for more information

Deadline date for next newsletter:

August 22

(The September issue will come out by August 26 to accommodate the editor's photo vacation)

E-Mail Address for Submitting Digital Images

Please use the following e-mail address for submitting digital images:

northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com

Comments by Vijay

Inspired by the Northern Exposure Photography Club History Center Exhibit
(and excerpted from the NEPC June 2008 newsletter)

Vijay and Jay Karai attended Northern Exposures Photo Club's May meeting, at which Vijay commented on the photography in their exhibit. Here is a summary of some of his comments.

- * Vijay photographs anything that has good light. The objects and subjects are incidental.
- * Vijay and his wife usually photograph during the golden hours (early morning and late afternoon). During the day, they do macro photography because the overhead sun does not flatten out the image as much.
- * Vijay stressed using a tripod, even if it is to stabilize your arm while your hand is holding the camera.
- * There are no rules – only good photographs.
- * Don't crop images too closely. Leave room, especially at the face side of your subject.
- * Be careful of lines (branches, roads, etc) that lead your eye out of the picture. Have a stopper before it goes out.
- * Show the details in white.
- * Watch for balance between objects in the photo – don't leave a lot of blank sky.
- * Try to put objects on thirds lines rather than in the center.
- * Bracket settings, but bracket composition too.
- * When photographing someone else's artwork, include a person interacting with the artwork.
- * Try using natural light indoors and avoid the on-camera flash which creates a flat image.
- * Kirk Enterprises has a bracket mount that allows for a flash to be positioned at a 45-degree angle.
- * People should look into the photo and not out of it.
- * In landscapes, the closest image has to be sharply in focus to grab your attention.
- * Use a shutter speed of 1/15 of a second or less to get the silky motion of a waterfall.
- * Blue sky, wait for clouds or something else to something else to fill it and create interest.
- * Need only 1 catch light in birds', animals' and people's eyes. More catch lights indicate the use of a flash.
- * Use long lenses to avoid stressing animals.
- * Keep horizon lines straight and not in the middle of the picture.

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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.)

The big news from here is the volcano. It now has been pouring lava into the ocean longer than any other time in recorded history. It has become the Energizer bunny of volcanoes. Crowds have been pouring in to see the spectacle. Up to 1,000 people an hour visit the ocean entry viewing site. You won't have much trouble picking out my pictures this upcoming year. Lots of volcano pictures.

The Hilo club has made arrangements with the Hilo Orchid Society to allow us into the arena after the judging of their big orchid show but before the doors are open to the public to photograph the orchids. I am looking forward to spending a few hours taking pictures of the orchids. This show is the largest orchid show in the state with hundreds of displays from all the growers and hobbyists on the island.

The weather here has been exceptionally nice. The rainfall totals on all the islands except the big island are running below normal which translates into lots of sunshine.

I started feeding a wild cat that was hanging around the house. She went out and spread the word and I now have 6 wild cats that have taken up residence. All but one are very skittish but they have learned that when they want to be fed in the morning, they all sit outside my bedroom window with their noses pressed up to the glass looking at me until I get up and feed them. Talk about peeping toms!

The Hilo club is really looking forward to judging one of NMPC's competitions and to have NMPC judge one of our competitions this year. We still need to determine the month for this to happen.

That's it for the news for now. Everybody enjoy the summer while it lasts.

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World Photography Day! August 19 (Tuesday)

Why not plan a special event for the annual celebration day of photography? No matter where in the world one might be, photography is sure to be important: share the day with others.

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Northern Treasure

By Carol Madison

A few weeks ago, when the weather was moderate, I took a day to visit the Arboretum. If only this treasure wasn't 70 miles round trip, I would do it more often.

Besides walking the trails and checking out photo opportunities for myself, I wanted to see the 'Timeless Beauty' photo exhibit. While shooting each of the Arboretum's gardens, photographer John Gregor had access to the Arboretum before and after normal hours – and the images he captured caught the sweet light of early morning and late afternoon. (If only the dedicated amateur had the same opportunity.)

John spent three years capturing the grounds and gardens in all seasons – including dramatic snow scenes, the subtle hues of early spring, the deep yellows and oranges of August, and the apple harvest. All of the images in the exhibit and many more are lavishly illustrated in a book titled "Northern Treasure: The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and Horticultural Research Center" (Afton Press, \$40). Author Susan Davis Price documents the evolution from a hopeful experiment into a northern treasure.

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What's Happening Around Here

by Grace E. Anderson Schrunk

Anyone who didn't make it to the club picnic on Saturday, July 12, missed out on a very good time. Kathy Wall and her husband were wonderful hosts, and the weather couldn't have been better. There were approximately 24 photo club member and their spouses in attendance. After the delicious pot luck, with plenty of desserts, some club members walked down to the dock for a look at the lake and to take a few photos.

Ask Kathy about her adventure at the Women's Professional Golf Tour held at Interlachen in Edina a couple of weeks ago. She has already signed up to volunteer at the MPGA tour when it comes to Minnesota in August next year. When the retired golfers played at the Bunker course several years ago, I was lucky enough to get Arnold Palmer's signature on a hat. I was working as a volunteer through Abbott Northwestern Hospital at the time.

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Before the camera club picnic I attended a garden club picnic. Another great meal and nice weather compared to what it was the night before. Two club members volunteered their homes for a flower garden tour following the picnic. At both residences the gardens were fantastically groomed. They also had husbands who helped them with the gardening.

There was not a weed at either place among the pretty perennials and flowering bushes. My flowers look nothing like the gardens that we looked at. Maybe in my next life, I will get around to organize and label all that is growing in the perfect layouts.

My theory is: plant it – if it makes it through our winter, it is here forever. I have two apple trees and a rose bush that were probably planted over 70 years ago, and they are still going strong.

I do have something blooming all summer long to look at from the window of my computer room, which gives me joy from May through October. Add a few indestructible marigolds, begonias and a geranium here and there, and I'm set for the summer.

I was sent the following poem by someone on the internet. I put it on my fridge to remind me what summer is really all about.

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better,
To take a picture or write a letter,
Bake a cake or plant a seed,
Ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must but there's not much time,
With rivers to swim and mountains to climb,
Music to hear and books to read,
Friends to cherish and a life to lead.

Dust if you must, but the world's out there,
With the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair,
A flutter of snow, a shower of rain,
This day will not ever come around again.

Dust if you must, but bear in mind,
Old age will come and it's not kind,
And when you go and go you must,
You, yourself, will make more dust.

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NMPC N4C Competition Results:

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

Nothing to report.

**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.

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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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A Tool Box

by Walt Fluegel

Andrew was one of the best carpenters on the construction job. He prided himself for being able to use a few tools in many ways compared to other carpenters who had large tool boxes filled with a specific tool for a specific task. His foreman did not complain about Andrew's work but he couldn't get Andy to pick up speed. "Catch up with the rest!" he kept urging. Andy took longer to get a window installed and trimmed, for example, compared to the other men. On any construction job, speed or catching up or being with the rest of the crew is important, but "catching up with the rest", can have other meanings if we apply it to photography.

The parallels to camera club photos are striking. No doubt you have heard the expression "It's not the camera, it's the photographer!" I am sure you don't fully agree because we know that a good camera, good lenses and other features help photographers with what skills we have. However, the most or best tools do not insure a good finished job or a good photo.

In the digital domain, the dilemma with this technology is that we don't know what kind of tool box to open and once we open it we don't know what questions to ask about the tools inside. We hear about this or that software during our social times and sometimes when a judge evaluates our images. We also read How-To articles in photo magazines as a means of "catching up" with others or to improve our own skills.



Quite often these articles involve using Photoshop, for example. But if your tool box does not have the Photoshop label on it, what then? You may have software different from another club member but because of your limited base knowledge of computers you have no idea if one piece of software is all that different or more sophisticated or simpler from the one you have been using. Yet there are times when something nags you, you want to "catch up". Is having Photoshop the ultimate program to have and does having it mean you are "caught up"?

If I use Andrew as an example, he had a few tools and learned how to exploit them to their fullest for the job at hand. He was content, he knew his job and did it well. In my case I started with Elements 3 and thought of it as being "training wheels" for the more advanced Photoshop. I finally know something about layers. Now I find that other club member's may not use layers because their software does not include layers. Other members may have more advanced Elements, or the most up to date Photoshop. I really do not know what newer or more advanced tools I am missing. I wonder if others have the same thought. Or is it really necessary to have all possible tools for the type of photography we want to do? We may be like Andrew and do very well in our monthly competitions and get good scores. Some of us may not be concerned with "catching up". I guess, I can paraphrase: To "catch up", it is not only the camera or the software tools, but it's also the photographer.

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TCACCC

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 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 (the print chair) 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 North Metro Photo Club Member Handbook for detailed instructions.

NorthMetroPhotoNews

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