

# 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

February 2009

## 2009 TCACCC InterClub Competition

The deadline for submitting entries to the annual TCACCC (Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs) photo competition is coming up fast. Entries must be submitted by **Sunday, February 15** to one of the drop off points listed on the website ([www.cameracouncil.org](http://www.cameracouncil.org)).

Jean McDonough – one of our members – is the drop off point for the north metro area. Contact her at 763-574-1450 and/or drop off your entries at her home at 2686 Country Road H2, Mounds View. She usually has a large container outside her front door for holding entries if no one is home. **Directions:** 694 to Silver Lake Road. Go north 2.3 miles. Turn right (east) on County Road H2. Go .3 of a mile – turn right – it's the first townhome on the left.

The rules, types of entries accepted, and entry forms are on the website and were handed out at the January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting for those without internet access.

This is an opportunity for club members to put the best of their best into a salon with the other Twin City area club members to see how you do in a larger competition. Look through your accepted images for inspiration. You don't have to enter all divisions (print/digital/slides) and you can submit from one to four images in a category.

The awards and a showing of the accepted images will be held on **Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>** as part of the annual Spring Break / Interclub photo event. More information on the events of the day should be available soon.

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## January Judging Event

The annual International Print Judging Event took place on January 17 at Blaine City Hall. Three photo clubs from the Twin Cities simultaneously judged over 1,400 prints in four categories – large color, small color, large monochrome, and small monochrome. Set up started about 8:00 am and it was all completed by about 5:00 pm. Whew!! A massive effort coordinated by Bob Dachelet, Mike Prokosh and Vijay Karai.

Among those North Metro members who helped judge, record-keep, and sort images were: Jay Karai, Duane Wraalstad, Carol Madison, Jerry Warzeha, Fran Warzeha, Bruce Barsness, Kathy Wall, Lois Scholzen, Grace Schrunk, Janet Hanson, and Debbie Dahl. Thank you all – this is a money-making event for our Club and all the willing workers were needed and appreciated.

Jay brought about 20 of the accepted images to the Fifth Thursday meeting so we could see a variety of images submitted to the salon that did well. Thanks Jay.

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Also In this Issue . . . . .	
Page	
2	Calendar
2	E-mail address for sending images
2	President's Corner – Jean McDonough
2	Inaugural Photos – Walt Fluegel
3	News From Hawaii – George Jensen
3	What's Happening Around Here – Grace Schrunk
4	N4C Results
5	NMPC Competition Results
6	NMPC Competition Categories
6	N4C Digital Competition Submissions

## CALENDAR

Feb 19  
Regular meeting – 7:00 pm at St. Philips  
Category: Backlit subject

Mar 19  
Regular meeting – 7:00 pm at St. Philips  
Category: Birds

### Competitions & Contests

Feb 15  
InterClub entries due.  
  
See [www.cameracouncil.org](http://www.cameracouncil.org) for more information

### Upcoming Events

Feb 8  
Como Conservatory Camera Event – Special time for photographers to bring in tripods. Cost: \$5.00 per person. 8:00-10:00am

Feb 21 – Jun 21  
Tom Arndt's Minnesota – exhibition of the photographer's images in the Harrison Gallery at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Apr 4  
TCACCC Spring Break and InterClub Competition Awards. Tartan Park, Lake Elmo. More information should be available soon.

Apr 24-26  
N4C Springbrook Mini-Conference in Guthrie, Iowa.  
See [www.N4C.us](http://www.N4C.us) for more information.

Sept 20 – 26  
PSA International Conference, West Yellowstone, Montana – Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort. See [www.psa-photo.org](http://www.psa-photo.org) for more information.

Sept 28 – Oct 4  
N4C Annual Convention in Duluth. See [www.N4C.us](http://www.N4C.us) for more information.

**Deadline date for next newsletter:  
February 28**

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## E-Mail Address for Submitting Digital Images

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

[northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com](mailto:northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com)

## President's Corner

By Jean McDonough

*(Jean has been traveling and did not provide a column this month.)*

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## Inaugural Photos

by Walt Fluegel

I was snugly anchored in the corner of the couch watching TV. My arms were locked at my sides. My P&S camera was firmly pressed against my glasses as I peered into the low grade miniature TV screen that served as a viewfinder. My trigger finger pressed the shutter button halfway down to focus. My first good photo op came when President-Elect Obama got out of the limousine and waited for his wife, Michelle, to come around from the other side. He turned to face the camera and I pressed the button all the way. 'Good shot', I said to myself as I waited for the live motion to resume as the image was being processed and sent to the memory card. My finger was pressed gently on the shutter button again ready for another snap. Thus I spent most of the morning and some of the afternoon of January 20, 2009, the inauguration of the 44th President of the USA, Barack Obama. This was my first attempt to capture HDTV images with the digital camera. I presumed that millions of Americans were also doing what I was doing.

During space shuttle launches when I had my film camera and TV was analog, my TV capture results were poor. Also, I had to wait for about two weeks before the finished roll of film was processed and returned by mail. With the P&S camera I felt free to snap away, take chances, and try to anticipate action. I felt like I did as a film photojournalist at festivals for the community newspaper, The NORTHEASTER.

I am still not used to the lag between the actual press of the button and the resumption of the view compared to the film camera. But I shot beyond the 36 exposure limits of the film. I could process the memory card in the computer later in the day, discard the bad shots, and wind up with fairly good results. And I had many more photo opportunities than if I were in Washington waiting in the crowd, in the cold, for that one moment.

But all my shots were at the "mercy and kindness" of what the TV showed. I immersed myself into the

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journalistic mode and learned a few things. I sometimes followed the action...oops, the edge of the TV screen, a little zooming...why do that? I learned not to snap dignitaries or the President while they were talking because action and facial features became blurred. I waited for almost still moments, and became luckier as I practiced. At the two times when the presidential couple got out of the limo hand in hand and walked and waved to the crowd, I noticed that they sometimes waved in unison with their free hand. Both to the right or left. I snapped when they both faced the camera. Many a good shot, no blur. Easy to delete the blurry ones later.

Fortunately, the battery indicator flashed when there was little momentous activity. I had been shooting other things previously the past week. Good thing I had new batteries handy just in case. A bit of fumbling to replace, but that was soon done. The memory card had lots of potential shots left.

All in all, after editing, I have about 75 good images, but more editing must be done to select the best from the good. What should I do with these images? What does anyone do? After the subsiding of the continuous lump in my throat because of the euphoria of these historic times, I will probably make a collection of prints. I recorded history, history of one person distilled by generations of experiences and events, history millions like me never expected in their lifetime. The photos will help me not to forget. Photos that are worth keeping. Images that gave hope to millions of people.

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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.)*

Looking at the news every night, it looks like Minnesota is getting a rather nasty winter this year. Even here in Hawaii it has been colder than normal. The last few mornings it has been 48 degrees at my house. At Volcano's Park visitor center, it has gotten down to 39 at night. When I give my ranger talk to visitors who are all bundled up, I like to kid them about coming to Hawaii to get cold. We continue to get snow on the mountains and they make a pretty sight when the cloud cover clears so you can see them.

The Hilo club had another of their outings a week ago which I attended. I think most of the members would rather I skip going to the outings as it has



rained cats and dogs every time I go on one and has been nice on every one I skip. They are all starting to get the idea that the rain is all my fault. Our calendar project was successful again this year. I think we will not do it next year as the economy is getting bad and it is getting harder to sell them plus the fact that we have purchased all the equipment the project was meant to raise money for.

I finally got around to teaching the kittens, with the help of their mother, about the litter box. They are outside all night and rather than taking care of their business outside, they all hold it until they come inside in the morning and then line up to take turns at the litter box. Kind of like a big household with one bathroom in the morning. I don't have a clue how to convince them that it is ok to take care of business outside before they come in.

I hope you all enjoyed looking at the pictures from the Hilo club. I just couldn't help inserting a slot canyon picture to bring back memories of me. I noticed the comment "This doesn't look like Hawaii" was made but the judge. I hope that we can keep this exchange going in the future.

It is about time to get ready to go to work. This is my long day as I don't get off until 9pm because we have an "After Dark in the Park" program tonight so I can't lock the visitor center up until everyone has gone.

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## What's Happening Around Here

by Grace E. Anderson Schrunk

As I was reading the January issue of our newsletter and telling you the names of those who had pictures published in calendars and the newspaper toward the end of 2008, I forgot to mention my own little claim to fame. I had a photo hanging at Blaine City Hall for the month of January for their winter scene display.

On April 11, 1994, what a memory; no, the date was faintly imprinted on the picture. As I was backing down the driveway around 10am that day, it had snowed the night before, my next thought was, what a pretty picture. I had my film point and shoot in the car and viola, an enlargement of our home with the big oak tree in the front, to give to my sons 12 years

later entitled, "Our Home Place." The oak tree is gone, but at least I have a picture of the tree I treasured for close to 50 years.

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So, what is my point in telling you all this. I am a member of the Blaine Fine Art Club and every December, a club member can enter a photo of winter to be hung at the city hall for the month. You do not have to be a member of the art club to have a picture in the December show, just being a resident of Blaine is all you need. Keep this month in mind and I will remind you of the opportunity to let others see and enjoy your work.

I made my reservations for the N4C convention in Duluth which will be held the last weekend in September. It is not too early to do this if you plan on attending the annual convention to see the year-end competition, the photo essays, plus all the good programs put on every year for the member clubs in the seven-state area. It is really worth the drive up north to be among other dedicated photographers for the long weekend. As we all know, this is the time of year that the freeways are full with residents and visitors to see the fall color which usually never fails to delight and charm us before the snow starts to fly.

I am so happy to see our club members getting out there and getting on TV, the Saint Paul Pioneer Press Bulletin Board and a magazine.

The inauguration was on every news channel on the 20th, which I had seen for the umpteenth time, so I decided to surf. I came to channel 6, the local access channel and there was a person I recognized, none other than, Margo Ashmore. She was telling about a program for home sellers and how to get your home listed to be part of an upcoming show. You looked confident, Margo, like you had probably done this a couple of times before.

Walt Fluegel entered another photo in the BB. I had seen it, at work, on a Saturday, but I didn't read the caption along with it. A very nice photo of a chipmunk sitting in a tree among the Christmas lights in the snow.

Debbie Kippen took a photo of a grouse on a trip up in the Aitkin area last fall. Her husband had it on his lap top as a screen saver. A woodcarver happened to see the photo, while they were both at a training session for work, and asked if he could use it to make a wood carving which looks like a puzzle. Both the wood carver, from Clearlake, and Debbie were written up in the latest Woodcarving magazine. Don't rush out and buy a copy, Debbie bought the only three copies that were at Barnes and Noble in Blaine.



Congratulations to all of you, keep up the good work and to the rest of you, don't be afraid to enter your work somewhere, you just never know, it may get published.

Jay Karai also had her work hanging at the Blaine City Hall for the month of January. The information I received only mentioned Vijay's name.

If you want to view the newsletter from Hawaii, aka, George Jensen's club, go to [www.hiphoto.org/](http://www.hiphoto.org/)

Someone in the club mentioned to me that a fellow member has an elf collection, probably the largest in the United States. I am going to interview this member and see how he got started with this unusual hobby.

### February

*Sunsets red and quiet air;  
Ponds are ice and trees are bare,  
Fields are frozen far and near,  
February days are here.  
Bitter cold the night draws down  
On the country and the town,  
But in cheerful warmth we sit  
And the many lamps are lit.*

*Snuggled up with blankets galore,  
Slipping on socks before touching the floor.  
Letting the dog out, getting the mail,  
Rushing back in before we get too pale.  
Such is the way of life for which we hold,  
To live in this awful, bitter cold.  
Spring is coming, the calendar says,  
Can't come soon enough, counting the days.*

*(First verse by K. Pyle; second verse by yours truly, Grace)*

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### NMPC N4C Competition Results: January

(Complete list included in monthly bulletin and winners posted at [www.N4C.us](http://www.N4C.us))

#### Pictorial

##### Points

- 45 First Cenaco Park – Duane Wraalstad
- 36 Merit Basket and Egg – Rachel Cain
- 35 Merit My Kitty – Sue Dilcher
- 30 Ocean Entry – George Jensen
- 30 Wild Geraniums – Jay Karai
- 26 Lantern – Carol Madison

#### Contemporary

- 30 The Window – Sue Dilcher
- 29 Red Wing Blackbirds – Jay Karai
- 26 Pink Water Lilies – Carol Madison

(continued on page 5)

# January 2009 Competition Results

## Digital Judge: Hilo Photo Club

The results/comments of the Hilo judging of North Metro's January digital images are attached to the newsletter in their entirety.

Thank you George and HPC for participating in this judging exchange.

### Points

#### Category: Open

- 14 Moon at White Sands – Jean McDonough
- 13 Making Sparks – Teresa Sposito
- 13 Yellowstone – Missy Mehner
- 12 Stephanie – Carlos Nazareth
- 12 Daisy Chain 8 – Walt Fluegel

#### Category: Downtown

- 15 Red Roofs – Michelle Lindstedt
- 14 Bell Tower at Night – Don Natwick
- 14 Evening in Downtown Pittsburg – Jean McDonough
- 12 Reflections of Downtown – Sue Dilcher
- 12 Minneapolis 5 – Duane Wraalstad
- 12 The El – Rachel Cain

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Red Roofs



## Print Judge: Leo Prechette

### Points

#### Category: Color

- 15 DeeDee – Carl Chada
- 14 Grouse – Debbie Kippen
- 14 Incoming or one big duck – Gene Janssen
- 14 White Sands – Jay Karai
- 13 Innocence – Jean McDonough
- 13 Red Wine Shadows – Rachel Cain
- 12 Sunset Fire – Carl Chada
- 12 Watercolor Rose – Rachel Cain
- 12 Bluebird with Worm – Jay Karai

#### Category: Monochrome

- 15 Green Leaf, White Orchid – Jay Karai
- 14 Yosemite Scene – Jean McDonough
- 14 Jim – Duane Wraalstad
- 13 Chevy Grille – Carol Madison
- 13 Shovel Point – Duane Wraalstad
- 12 Three Windows – Marian Beach
- 12 Chair Shadow – Rachel Cain

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#### Correction to December results:

In the Movement category, Jet Ski was mistakenly attributed to Dennis Hoyne. The image was submitted by Carlos Nazareth. Sorry.

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#### NMPC N4C Competition Results: January Nature

- 29 Wood Duck 5 – Duane Wraalstad
- 23 Chipmunk Profile – Carol Madison
- 23 Ma and Pa Nene – George Jensen
- 19 Wolf Creek Fall – Jay Karai
- 17 Eagle – Sue Dilcher

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## North Metro Photo Club Information

Affiliated with: Twin City Area Council of Camera Clubs (TCACCC) – [www.cameracouncil.org](http://www.cameracouncil.org)  
 North Central Council of Camera Clubs (N4C) – [www.N4C.us](http://www.N4C.us)  
 Photographic Society of America (PSA) – [www.psa-photo.org](http://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 Warzaha 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](mailto:carmadison@msn.com).

**Website:** [www.northmetrophotoclub.org](http://www.northmetrophotoclub.org)

President	Jean McDonough	(763) 574-1450
Vice President	Duane Wraalstad	(763) 755-5247
Treasurer	Fran Warzaha	(763) 425-7090
Secretary	Grace Schrunck	(763) 755-0575

Projected Images	Debbie Kippen	(763) 862-3722
Prints	Kathy Wall	(651) 426-6331
N4C Coordinator	Grace Schrunck	(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. (The Handbook is on the website under Articles.)

### Submitting Images

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

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

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## N4C Digital Competition Submissions

Send N4C digital images (one pictorial, one nature, and new this year - contemporary) to Duane at [duanewraalstad@gmail.com](mailto:duanewraalstad@gmail.com) by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month (September through November and January through May). See North Metro Photo Club Member Handbook for detailed instructions.

### **NorthMetroPhotoNews**

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