

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 **March 2009**

Annual Photo Events

Along with the Spring Break / InterClub event described on this page, there are three other photo conferences listed in the Calendar section on page 2 that are worth taking in if you can. These events always provide an opportunity to learn more about photography as well as meet other photographers.

The one at the end of April sponsored by N4C is briefly described below. (Future newsletters will have more information on the other two – the PSA Conference in West Yellowstone and the N4C Conference in Duluth.)



April 24-26 2009
Springbrook Mini-Convention
 Held at the learning center
 At Springbrook State Park
 near GuthrieCenter, IA. – just NW of DesMoines
[\[Information\]](#) [\[Map\]](#) [\[ParkWeb\]](#)
[\[Registration Form - Type on it\]](#)

A great photo shoot, hands on workshops, and educational speakers are planned.

Package #1: Dorm Room Use @ \$89 per person
(Includes: Meals & lodging in dorms.)
Package #2: Day Use @ \$74 per person
(Includes: Meals & day use learning center. Not use of dorm room – this is intended for those who wish to camp, stay at a local motel, or live nearby.)

Register before April 15. www.N4C.us

2009 Spring Break / InterClub

One-day Event
Saturday, April 4
8:00am – 9:00 pm
Tartan Park – Lake Elmo

This is the annual TCACCC photo event which will include:

- a number of seminars, workshops, and travelogues throughout the day;
- vendors with camera equipment and supplies;
- animals to photograph compliments of the Wildlife Connection;
- modeling sessions with studio lighting set-up and backgrounds;
- portfolio evaluations;
- InterClub print display and award ceremony;
- sandwich and sandwich lunch buffet; and,
- two-entrée dinner buffet with salad, potato and vegetable.

All of this for just \$60. Registrations are limited to 150 and as of February 18 were about half gone.

See www.cameracouncil.org for more information, registration form, and directions to Tartan Park.

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CALENDAR

- Mar 19
Regular meeting – 7:00 pm at St. Philips
Category: Birds
- April 16
Regular meeting – 7:00 pm at St. Philips
Category: An Event
- April 30
Fifth Thursday meeting – 7:00 pm at St. Philips
Category: Prints – open
Member 10-minute shows – Bring a CD, DVD, or slide tray and show off some of your work – it can have a theme or not, just what you want to share with the members.

Competitions & Contests

See www.cameracouncil.org

Upcoming Events

- Mar 29
Como Conservatory Camera Event – Special time for photographers to bring in tripods. Cost: \$5.00 per person. 8:00-10:00am
- Thru 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. See www.cameracouncil.org for more information
- Apr 24-26
N4C Springbrook Mini-Conference in Guthrie, Iowa. See www.N4C.us for more information.
- Sept 20 – 26
PSA International Conference, West Yellowstone, Montana – Holiday Inn SunSpree Resort. See www.psa-photo.org for more information.
- Sept 28 – Oct 4
N4C Annual Convention in Duluth. See www.N4C.us for more information.

**Deadline date for next newsletter:
March 30**

E-Mail Address for Submitting Digital Images

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

northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com

President's Corner Egypt, Sinai Peninsula, and Jordan

By Jean McDonough

I can't tell you how many people asked me if I wasn't afraid of traveling to this part of the world that I visited for 2 ½ weeks in January. People reading about the bombing in an upscale hotel in Bombay, India, were fresh in their minds. Flying Air France from New York to Paris for the connecting flight to Cairo was not memorable except in Paris at the security check point where we had to empty all carry-on luggage and place everything in the pans provided. My "visor" was also a threat along with my shoes and vest. Security areas all have a different set of rules and the decibel level of yelling is also different.

Because tourism is such an important part of Egypt's economy, they make every effort to make sure tourists are safe. They had a lot of police security (with guns) at all the major attractions, including one officer (with a gun) who traveled with us on our bus. Driving from Aswan to Abu Simbel, we had to travel in a convoy of other buses and cars at the time set for our departure. After our sunrise photography was finished at Abu Simbel, we had to be ready for the convoy trip back to Aswan.

Driving from Egypt to the Sinai Peninsula via a tunnel under the Suez Canal was an added bonus. The Egyptians remember their army's thrust into the peninsula in the 1973 Yom Kippur War, and the Israelis commemorated their ancestors' biblical journey through the desert. We visited the oldest continuously operating Christian monastery in the world, "St. Catherine's," located at the foot of Mount Sinai where Moses is said to have received the Ten Commandments. No one from our group wanted to get up and take a camel up to a certain point at 2:00 a.m. and then walk the rest of the way with a flashlight up to visit this site. There were hundreds – noticeably younger – walking back down the mountain when we visited the monastery at 8:00 a.m.

The Sinai Peninsula is really on the Asian Continent. Our ferry crossing on the Red Sea to Jordan took place seven hours after the scheduled time. We received excuses from both countries for the delay. Jordan's security was more extreme than Egypt's; Israel, Saudi Arabia, and Syria share its borders. On a clear day, one can see Jerusalem from Jordan.

Now, I have to worry about crossing the streets in the Twin Cities and driving defensively with my automobile.

Your Photo Gallery

by Walt Fluegel

Do you hang some of your own photos on the walls of your home? If you do, what does your photo gallery mean to you?

I know an artist who had blank walls in his studio because he thought his own works would hinder him in thinking of new topics or new ideas to work on. Other artists and photographers have a clutter of works in progress, objects lying about on shelves or leaning on the walls. But, why do some of us display our own photos? I have my reasons, and Maxine has hers. Some photos were chosen by Max, a former interior decorator, as decorative pieces.

There are three especially important Cibachrome prints taken by Max and printed by me. One is of a backlit lone wild sunflower growing in a field of weeds on a hill, taken just before sunset. Everything is as sharp as a tack, the colors are right, and the composition is excellent. Is this the reason, or is it because we both had a hand in making the picture? The second photo hangs over a lamp that shines on the photo of a purple spiderwort flower, another backlit subject. The lamp glow gives this picture the essence of the original intent. It is a bonus that this photo is also decorative. The third is of a leaf full of holes made by an insect. It was taken in the deep woods on a very quiet day but a dim shaft of sunlight illuminates this leaf. The photo was one of the first attempts by Max to do a close-up of a natural object. She snapped it at one eighth of a second at f-22 with slide film.

Some of my photos hang on the wall to remind me of the experimentation I've done and the techniques I've learned over the years. I'm sometimes amazed at what can be done with the camera and, now, with the computer.

Did we choose these photos to keep our memory fresh for the photo adventures or were the photos worthy to be on any wall? In other words, who else but we would want these photos on their walls? One way of knowing is to give the photos to your kids, friends or relatives, or try to sell them. It gets kind of tricky here because what objects we have at any moment may have a meaning only to ourselves. Do we want to let others enjoy what we enjoy? Do we have confidence in our own talents? Do we want to explore more? One can go all the way back and ask as to why pick up a camera in the first place to make the photo? And that, my fellow photographers, only you can answer.

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Five Rules in Shooting More and Processing Less

By Carol Madison

An article in the March issue of Outdoor Photographer by Nick Carver covered this topic and relays my feeling about photography. In this digital age there are great cameras, computers, and software that can do so much – but how much time do you want to spend at the computer in 'post-production suction' as the author called it? The point of the article was to use the computer for enhancing, not fixing, an image.

The rules –

- **Keep the sensor clean.** Develop a regular routine of cleaning your sensor with an air blower after each major shoot and do a more extensive job every few times. Some cameras have automatic sensor cleaning capabilities. Clean cameras make better images.
- **Use split NDs instead of HDR.** High dynamic range techniques are the 'in' thing right now and result in some fantastic images. But get and learn to use a neutral density filter and you can get some fantastic images right out of the camera.
- **Streamline your workflow.** Streamline your post-production workflow to reduce editing time. Lay out your workflow in definite and precise steps that you follow with each image to get to your goal. The author lays out his images in three steps for starters – In, Pending, and Out. And, each of those has a number of sub-steps to get to the final product.
- **Avoid 'monitor eyes'.** Take a break – regular breaks while working on the computer will help you from getting 'dry eyes' – a computer age malady. And, while you're at prevent other maladies by watching your posture and using keyboard and mouse rests.
- **Edit efficiently.** How does this differ from streamlining your workflow? If you learn to speed up your editing time (from downloading to print) will save you time. For instance, when evaluating which image to use from a number of them taken of the same subject – you can beat yourself up trying to decide between them. Go with your first choice. The small differences will probably not be noticeable in the final product.

Follow these suggestions and you will more time to go out and get new material.

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What's Happening Around Here

by Grace E. Anderson Schrunk

Congratulations are in order for Carlos Nazareth and his wife Nina. They, along with their little daughter, welcomed Anthony Louis into the world on February 2nd.

Rachel Cain received an award for a photo she had entered in the Elk River Arts Alliance recently.

Any Blaine resident, who attends a meeting or two of the Blaine Fine Arts Council, is considered a member. There are a number of good artists who are more than willing to share their expertise with the group. April is a member's only exhibit, which gives the residents a chance to share their work with the public.

I know it is a long ways off, but time does have a way of "slipping" away. In December, at the Blaine City Hall, any resident can bring a photo depicting snow or winter to be shown for the month. It is on a first come, first serve basis and a lot of paintings do show up, so it is a good idea to call in your name, with the type of medium you plan to exhibit, in November.

For January of 2010, our photo club will be able to have either the first or second floor to display our photos. You do not have to be a resident for this show. I know it is a long ways off, but it is always nice to know ahead of time rather than to have to scramble to put something together at the last minute. I will remind you when the time gets closer for the exhibit.

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Member Profile – Debbie Kippen

A new feature

By Grace E. Anderson Schrunk

Debbie Kippen agreed to be the first photo club member to be interviewed for the newsletter. Debbie recently took over the job of taking in the pictures for the monthly contest and the job of web master. Debbie will do just fine with these added jobs to her already busy life. She has extensive experience as a web master. Thanks, Debbie for all you do for the club, it is greatly appreciated.

How did you hear about the North Metro Photo Club? Carlos Nazareth lives in back of me and invited me to come to a meeting.

How long have you been a member? Just a little over a year.

How did you develop an interest in photography?

I've always been interested in taking pictures; just never know what I was doing. After the first night of a community ed class, I was hooked in the DSLR world and have no intention of going back.

What happened for you to get the added thing needed to make the

perfect picture? Meeting up with a wonderfully talented photographer at the crack of dawn and hiking 1/4 mile in the dark.

As you were ready to snap the shutter for the "perfect picture" did something happen so the scene did not come together for the photo? For a different "perfect picture" my hands were freezing up in -2 to 20 below wind chill.

What made you decide to go from film to digital? I like that "instant gratification" and I hate waiting for my pictures, not to mention the cost of developing.

Do you have a favorite place to photograph? The North Shore. Even though I've been up the N. Shore numerous times over the last couple of years or so, I find myself drawn back to see what I missed from the last trip. On each trip, I always find something new.

Does your spouse or significant other go with you on your photo forays? Of course. In fact, Carlos refers to my spouse as "my Sherpa" as he carries most of my gear. Many times, he is the one who suggests the photo road trips.

What kind of camera do you use? Canon 50D

How would you like to be remembered among your peers, as a photographer? That my pictures, while not perfect, come from a passion and desire to capture what I may never see again.

Do you have a favorite quote? Not yet, but I am leaning toward, "chance favors the prepared mind."

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Try for a record of emotion rather than a piece of topography. Wait till the building makes you feel intensely...then try and analyze what gives you that feeling.

Frederick H. Evans

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February 2009 Competition Results

Digital Judge: Gene Schwope

Points

Category: Open

- 15 Red Water Lily – Carol Madison
- 15 A Cowgirl's Days Gone By – Shirley Bebensee
- 14 Red Sand Dune Patterns – Jean McDonough
- 14 Colorful Chairs v1 – Teresa Sposito
- 13 Tears – Dennis Hoyne
- 13 Cenaco Park – Duane Wraalstad
- 13 Old House – Sue Dilcher
- 13 Braving the Snow – Bruce Barsness
- 12 Ford Yellow – Carol Madison
- 12 Gazania brooch 9 – Walt Fluegel
- 12 Lava – George Jensen
- 12 Sand and Sea – Missy Mehner
- 12 Window Reflections – Don Natwick

Category: Backlit

- 15 Green Leaf – Teresa Sposito
- 14 Pine Shadows – Dennis Hoyne
- 13 Family Taking Picture of Lighthouse – Kathy Wall
- 13 Mast on Mayflower II – Marian Beach
- 13 Ships in Harbor – Carol Madison
- 13 Paying Homage – Jean McDonough
- 12 Mullein Back Lit – Walt Fluegel
- 12 Pumpkins in the Park – Dennis Hoyne
- 12 Bar Bottles – Teresa Sposito
- 12 Morning Dove Love – Tim Oien
- 12 Leaf 3 – Duane Wraalstad
- 12 The Stable – Michelle Lindstedt

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Red Water Lily



A Cowgirl's Days Gone By



Green Leaf



NMPC N4C Competition Results

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

Nothing to report.



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 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
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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 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, one nature, and new this year - contemporary) to Duane at duanewraalstad@gmail.com by the 5th 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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