

North Metro Photo Club

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

December 2009



North Metro Photo News – newsletter of North Metro Photo Club

Category Switch

Creative Expression was originally planned for December this year. But, to accommodate the selected judge who cannot make the December meeting, Creative Expression will be in January.

Thus, Waterscape (originally the category for January) will be the category for December.

Remember –

December	Waterscape
January	Creative Expression

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Yankee Swap

Time again for the ‘funnest’ program of the year – the Yankee Swap. We all participate in the swap. Here is how it works:

- Bring a wrapped, unmarked gift of no particular value. The gift can be photo related or not – your choice.
 - The wrapping can be as ‘normal’ or creative as you want – grocery bags and comic pages are often used as well as traditional wrapping paper.
- Put your gift on the designated table when arrive.
- Everyone will be given a number.
- After the monthly competition and a short break, we will draw numbers, draw gifts, and ‘exchange’ gifts (which really amounts to taking something you prefer from someone else and giving that person something you can live without).

It’s all for fun and is a hoot! You won’t believe the stuff that shows up during the swap (some really good and some, well, not so good)

For refreshments – bring a sample of your Holiday baking or some other tasty morsel to share with the group.

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Judging Event

Saturday, December 12th

8:45 am – mid afternoon

lunch provided

Church of the Risen Christ (on Hwy. 36)

9050 60th St. N., Stillwater

Come for the day or for a few hours – help if you can or just watch. You will see some great images. Club members assist with announcing scores, recording scores, focusing the projector, running the equipment, etc. Supporting these types of events results in a fair amount of funds that goes into the Club treasury.

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CALENDAR

Dec 17

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

Jan 21

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

Competitions & Contests

Jan 5, 2010

Entries due for 2010 Minneapolis-St. Paul Print Circuit.

Feb 14, 2010

Entries due for InterClub competition.

See www.cameracouncil.org for more information

Mar 22, 2010

George W. Glennie Nature Interclub Exhibition, sponsored by Merrimack Valley Camera Club, North Andover, MA Visit www.glennie-exhibition.com for more info. Or contact Charlie Burke, Chair, 2010 Glennie Nature Interclub Exhibition, E-Mail: nichburke@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events

Dec 3

First Thursdays – a multitude of painters, sculptors, printmakers, photographers, ceramists, textile and fiber artists, jewelers, furniture showrooms and more open their studios at the Northrup King Building located in the heart of the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District. 1500 Jackson Street NE. 5:00 – 900 pm.
<http://www.northrupkingbuilding.com/>

Thru Jan 30

New Pictures: Noriko Furunishi at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. See the inaugural installation of "New Pictures," the first exhibition in a series dedicated to featuring new photographic-based work by emerging artists from around the world. Presented each fall and spring, the series highlights the vital experimentations in photography and new media undertaken by artists who grapple with today's culture.

Mar 27, 2010

Spring Break / InterClub one-day event.

Sep 16-19, 2010

N4C Annual Conference, LaCrosse, Wisconsin, Radisson Inn.

Oct 3-9, 2010

PSA Conference, Charleston, SC, Embassy Suites Hotel.

**Deadline date for next newsletter:
December 25**

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E-Mail Address for Submitting Digital Images

Submit digital images to the following e-mail address:

northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com

North Metro Photo Club Affiliations

North Metro Photo belongs to three other photographic groups: TCACCC, N4C, and PSA. Many competitions are available with a larger group of photographers than possible in a single club. This is a partial list of what is available through each organization:

Camera Council (formerly known as TCACCC or Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs):

- www.cameracouncil.org with connections to 18 local club websites.
- yearly Spring Break weekend of programs and individual interclub competitions.
- training of competition judges.
- sponsors PSA International competitions in Nature, Prints, Color Slides and Digital, and Botany managed by local clubs with local, state, national, and international competitors.
- The Councilor newsletter.
- North Metro Photo's delegate: Margo Ashmore.

N4C (North Central Camera Club Council):

- www.n4c.us (over 40 member clubs from MN, WI, IA, ND, SD, NE, IL, MO, KS, WY).
- eight monthly competitions in multiple categories (slides, digital, prints, essays, circuits).
- yearly convention with programs, speakers, photo opportunities.
- N4C News Bulletin newsletter online plus program aids, videos.
- North Metro Photo's N4C coordinator: Grace Shrunk.

PSA (Photographic Society of America):

- www.psa-photo.org gives details of education and competitions.
- numerous international competitions sponsored by PSA in USA and other countries in many categories using film, digital, prints.
- North Metro Photo Club participates in two international competitions in the Twin Cities (nature and prints), supplying judges and assistance in the judging events.
- star ratings based on acceptances and winners in competitions.
- rents out DVD's and videos on many photo topics.
- yearly convention with programs, speakers, photo opportunities.
- PSA Journal, monthly.
- North Metro Photo's representative: Kathy Wall.

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“If you can ...”

by Walt Fluegel

Let me finish the sentence: “If you can shoot food you can shoot anything.” So goes the thought among professional photographers who have tried their skill with food. They say it is not easy. And you need help, lots of help from a food stylist and others if you are to succeed. The resulting photo must show food attractively presented, real looking, tempting, deliciously mouth watering, and in some cases artistically acceptable. Do you show food on a plate with silverware, napkins, and in a formal setting? In that case you will need the help of a prop stylist. Or do you want to show someone eating or preparing the food at a restaurant, or in a park? ... in a home? In that case you need models and other props. Who will employ you for your talents? To paraphrase, you have a lot on your plate to think about.

Let’s concentrate on still photography. For example, how much time do you have to photograph ice cream? ...with added chocolate syrup oozing down the sides? ...and sprinkled with chopped nuts? You have just one to three minutes to make the photo of the main or “hero” food look real before hot lights destroy the object. Or maybe the producer or client wants a close-up or a little bit more convincing angle, or maybe the chocolate syrup doesn’t have the right sheen or flow as it oozes down the side. Maybe a little more fill-in light on the side would help. So the “hero” food usually has a stand-in, a replica of what will be photographed. That is just for starters in what to do with lighting and ambiance. The food, whether ice cream or a salad, must look “alive” at all times (e.g. no melting or wilting). However, because “truth in advertising” rules apply in most cases, real food must be used in the final shoot. Challenges one must “get right” at each attempt.

Ahh. Here is where the artistry from the food stylist applies. If pancakes were the advertised product would real syrup or “motor oil” poured over the pancakes make the pancakes look more appealing? Or should you apply a blowtorch to a pad of butter and a bit of smoke from a smoke pellet to make the pancakes look hot and freshly made. Perhaps you could use dry ice in water to look like steam from the hot cakes? Real steam does not last long on a photo set, and diluted tobacco smoke does not come off well as “steam”.

How about photographing a turkey right from an oven? You can start with a frozen bird and use

brown gravy, some shoe polish, a bit of shellac, a blow torch and other tricks to give the just-from-the-oven illusion. Yup, it’s turkey all right, but the camera crew and technicians will refuse to eat it after the shoot. Likewise when white glue is used to simulate milk on cereal, or glycerin water is misted on veggies to make them look “alive” it all becomes garbage. Most veggies are undercooked to bring out color. Pies have extra thickeners added such as gelatin so they can hold their shape, but when a fork cuts into a piece of pie, the crust must look crispy too.

In advertisement showing the grill going strong, the grill marks on the meat and other foods are literally branded with a hot skewer. A cheese burger bun collapses when you make it at your own barbecue. But in an advert how the bun keeps its shape in a photo and how the cheese and meat looks good (yes, real cheese and meat) are tricks the food stylists employs to tempt you. And back to the ice cream above. Mashed potatoes make a good substitute, but solid shortening, corn syrup and powdered sugar make a scoop of “ice cream” look real. And that full bowl of salad? Another upside down cold bowl under a thin layer of lettuce, tomato and cut olives misted with glycerin-water makes it look fresh enough to munch on right away. So all the illusions used by advertisers on TV, in magazines, on menus, in cook books, and on bill boards rely upon the creative talents of the food stylists and photographer with their grocery bag or tool chest full of tricks.

However, the photographer must generally subsume his or her creativity at a shoot. The photographers creativity lies in the domain of lighting and how it creates shadow for bringing out texture, what must be sharp or not, horizontal or vertical aspects, depth of field, color harmony, and of course when and how or if to break the composition “rules” when the stylist or art director allows. Everyone at a food photo shoot works to make the final image appealing, not necessarily pretty.

But at the end of a long studio day you want to indulge in real ice cream with butterscotch and chocolate dripping down the sides. You want to forget about a “frosted” beverage you have for your guests, or the diluted drink that allows light to be seen through the glass, or the “tea” for non-beer drinkers. You just want real food, turkey for example that your spouse really cooked in the oven. When you help make lemonade for your kids and use ice

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cubes you note how they have a remarkable resemblance to the \$35 acrylic cubes you used in the studio. After your real meal you want to go outside and wander in the woods or the meadow or go to the ballpark or visit friends. "If you can ..." you may even take your camera with you and snap photos that are food for the soul not the body.

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What's Happening Around Here

by Grace E. Anderson Schrunk

We can almost chalk up another year. I still find it a little hard to write a year starting with a 2, I should be use to it pretty soon. We still have green grass to look at, not snow, even during the middle of November.

Margo Ashmore had ten of her photos hanging at Papa's Pizza located in the Camden area during October and November. I didn't get there for the reception, but I did stop on my way home from work several days later. It was a perfect place for such an event. It would be nice to find a business place so our club could do something similar to share our work with the public. Margo had a nice write up, and a photo, in the Northeaster newspaper the first week of November about our photo club.

I watch Twin Cities Live during the week on channel 5 which is on opposite Dr. Phil. When the Phil show gets a little too heavy to my liking, I watch the Twin Cities program. I happened to see the audience this last week, and it is in a fairly small area. It brought to mind that during the 60's when a girlfriend and I went to the KSTP studio to be in the audience for the Randy Merriman daytime show. It was exciting to see how a live show is done and be up close to someone we saw every day on TV. I guess I wouldn't do that again, unless it was to see Oprah on the day she gives away a car or her many gifts.

George keeps rubbing in about the nice weather in Hawaii. I spent a week in Cabo San Lucas with Terry Sposito several years ago. I do not smile without a pretty good excuse, but, for some reason, I wore a smile on my face for the whole week we were there. I even have pictures to prove it. So, maybe the sun and warm weather does have an effect on us we don't even realize.

I now have someone new to spend money on, worry about and love, in my family. My great grand-daughter, Gretchen Adrienne, was born on the 10th of November.

I happened to pick up the monthly bulletin put out by St. Philips Lutheran when we met in October. In it was information that St. Philips had won the 2009 Best of Fridley Award. The U.S. Commerce Association award program recognizes outstanding local businesses throughout the country. Winners are determined based on information gathered Internally by the USCA and data provided by third parties.

Every September, St. Philips, has a giant garage sale. They usually bring in around \$30,000, which is used to help the unfortunate around the world. The items left over, from each year's sale is given to local charities, so all new donations are given for the annual sale.

I would guess that our photo club has probably met there for close to 20 years. It has been a very good experience and is centrally located for our meetings.

Richard Kahn was the judge for the photojournalism salon in November. He also showed slides from Japan and China from his recent trip there which coincided with the total eclipse of the sun in 2009. Anyone who left early missed out on an excellent presentation of the two countries.

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Marriage: Like buying something you've been admiring for a long time in a shop window. You may love it when you get it home, but it doesn't always go with everything else in the house.

– Jean Kerr

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West Photo Exhibit Images

Seven North Metro Photo Club members have had their month of fame at the West Photo Exhibit. Another photo club has hung their images. Jean has the North Metro images and will bring them to the December 17th meeting to return them to their makers. If anyone wants or needs their images before then contact her and make arrangements for an earlier delivery/pickup. Carol will bring the packaging materials to the December meeting.

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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.)

I mentioned in last month's article that I was going to attend the all park award luncheon and planned to overeat as usual. That part went off like clockwork. What was a complete surprise to me was that during the ceremony, the park superintendent, Cindy Orlando, announced my promotion to the Master Ranger Corps. That is a pretty big honor, as I became one of only seven in the park to be so honored out of 912 that work in the park. I never even knew that I had been nominated for it so it was a complete surprise.

As usual, I will be working at the park on Thanksgiving. I work all of the holidays so others who have families can have the time off. In the past, I have been rewarded by one of my neighbors delivering dinner to me when I get home.

Catherine, the cat, has gotten very energetic lately. She no longer walks around the house but instead runs full out, bouncing off walls and furniture to get from one end of the house to the other. She is getting to be more like Gracy, the cat I had in Minnesota, all the time. Gracy used to sleep with me in my little twin sized bed I used in Minnesota and try to push me out of bed all night. Here I have a California king bed. Catherine hops in bed with me every night and we start on the right side of the bed. By morning, we end up on the left side. Catherine likes to sit on my electronic scale in the bathroom. The other day I happened to look down at the scale while she was on it and almost dropped my jaw. She weighs 22.3 pounds. No wonder I can hardly breath when she sits on top of me. She only has about another month to be with me until her regular companion gets back home. Then things can get back to the way they used to be and maybe Greycy will stop biting me on the toes to get attention.

We finally got some nice sunny days. We went through a week where it never stopped raining. The Hilo airport received 13% of their annual rainfall in a two-day period. The grass grew so fast you could almost see it rise. When I finally got to cut it, it was about 14 to 16 inches tall.

The Hilo club is having their Christmas party on December 2nd so I have to get ready for the swap. It should be pretty good this year. The first year I introduced it, I had to fight the culture over here which stopped people from swapping for fear of

offending someone. Last year they loosened up some but still not to the level I want. This year I hope it will be the best one we have ever had. This will also be a potluck meeting. This will be the third potluck I have had in less than two weeks. We had one at the park as a thank you party for the 3 month volunteers who are leaving us, one at the wood turners club, and now one at the photo club. I am about potlucked out.

Catherine just jumped in my lap to check out what I am doing and to make sure it is being done right. I can't get away with anything around here. I wish to say Mele Kalikimaka to everyone. (Merry Christmas for those who need the translation.) Now I have to pick out my entries for Decembers competitions.

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Zippel Bay State Park Photo Contest Winner

Debbie Kippen had three images place in the Zippel Bay State Park summer photo contest:

In the Adult Category – Plants and Animals –

- Showy Lady's Slipper

Honorable Mention – Plants and Animals –

- Spotted Coral-root
- Bear

To see the images go to:

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/zippel_bay/photo_contest.html

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Article in the Northeaster (newspaper)

Thank you Margo for the promotional piece about North Metro Photo Club in the November 4th issue of the Northeaster.

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TCACCC Changes It's Name – Camera Council

With the new name for the Twin Cities area camera clubs we might be able to remember it now. The link to the website (www.cameracouncil.org) will not change, but plans are underway to update and enhance the website with tutorials, information about clubs, and a list of upcoming events.

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Cool Weather Photo Ops

Holidazzle Parades –

The glittering lights of the 18th annual Holidazzle parades in downtown Minneapolis make for good watching as well as ‘photo-ing.’ Bundle up and head for Nicollet Mall between 12th and 4th streets on Thursdays through Sundays until December 20th starting at 6:30 pm. Or purchase a ‘hot seat’ (\$9 per person) in the heated enclosure and enjoy hot cocoa and cider while you watch. Information:

www.holidazzle.com

St. Paul Winter Carnival –

The 124th annual ‘coolest celebration on earth’ runs January 21 – 30. The eleven-day event includes both a day and a night parade, ice carving contest, fireworks, hot air balloon liftoff, a juried art show, and much more. Check their website for more information: www.winter-carnival.com

Canadian Pacific Holiday Train –

This is an annual event to benefit local food shelves. The train is decorated with lights, there is music, and of course, they are hoping to collect a fair amount of money and non-perishable food to benefit the less fortunate.

This year the train arrives at the Shoreham Yards at 28th and Central Ave. NE on Saturday, December 12th – at approximately 9:30 pm.

Como Conservatory Holiday Show –

Starting December 5th through January 18th, the flowers of the season will be on display in the sunken garden.

They no longer show a camera event for their flower shows on the website so assume only a mono-pod or handheld camera will be acceptable in the Conservatory.

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There will be times when you will be in the field without a camera. And, you will see the most glorious sunset or the most beautiful scene that you have ever witnessed. Don't be bitter because you can't record it. Sit down, drink it in, and enjoy it for what it is!

~DeGriff

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NMPC N4C Competition Results:

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

October

Contemporary

32 Lone Pine – Sue Dilcher

PhotoJournalism (max. points: 15)

9 Tomatoes in Screen – Carol Madison

9 Early Snow – Duane Wraalstad

November

Contemporary

26 Merit

Lake Alice – Debbie Kippen

25 Hillside Tree – Duane Wraalstad

24 Am. Flag Distort – Walt Fluegel

19 Fabric with Water Droplet – Maxine Fluegel

Nature

34 Gull 10 – Rachel Cain

34 Sharptail – Duane Wraalstad

33 More than Lunch – Walt Fluegel

32 Dragon Fly – Duane Wraalstad

31 Red Maple Leaf – Maxine Fluegel

30 San Juan Mountains, Michelle Lindstedt

29 Lichen and Feather – Carol Madison

28 New Growth – George Jensen

PhotoJournalism (max. points: 15)

15 2nd Demo Derby Rescue – Carol Madison

10 Early Snow – Duane Wraalstad

9 Crossword Puzzler – Maxine Fluegel

9 Paving Project 14 – Walt Fluegel

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November 2009 Competition Results

Judge: Richard Cain

Category – Open

Points

15 Kuhuku – George Jensen

14 A Big Jump – Jean McDonough

14 Christmas Cactus – Jim Richardson

14 Evening Shade – Don Natwick

14 Cascade Mountains, Washington – Bruce Barsness

14 Peavey Plaza, Minneapolis, Bruce Barsness

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Category – PhotoJournalism

- 13 Cheerio – Dennis Hoyne
- 13 Trillium No. 2 Jean McDonough
- 13 Eggs in Bowls 2 – Rachel Cain
- 13 American Flag distort – Walt Fluegel
- 13 Glowing Gummies – Tim Oien
- 13 Hungry Hawk – Tim Oien
- 12 Oak and Pine on Drive – Walt Fluegel
- 12 Pink Lady Slipper – Debbie Kippen
- 12 Wild Rose Center – Rachel Cain
- 12 Porcupine – Debbie Kippen
- 12 Eye on You – Randy Mehner

- 15 Pushing Off – Duane Wraalstad
- 14 Minnesotan Takes 5th at Nationals – Kathy Wall
- 14 Celtic Dancers – Debbie Kippen
- 13 Street Painters – Teresa Sposito
- 13 Smoking Couple – Kelly Marquart
- 13 Demo Derby Rescue – Carol Madison
- 13 A Widow Weeps – Molly Rhoe
- 12 Drag – Dennis Hoyne
- 12 Drinking on the Job – Don Natwick
- 12 Biker Upside Down – Jean McDonough
- 12 The Horse is Winning – Jean McDonough
- 12 Rollerblading by Fountain – Missy Mehner
- 12 Raging Fire – Pauline Nystrom
- 12 Iron Pour – Margo Ashmore
- 12 Hail Hits Suburbs – Gerry Bakken



Kuhuku



Pushing Off



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	Kathy Wall	651-426-6331
Vice President	Rachel Cain	651-426-6331
Treasurer	Fran Warzeha	763-425-7090
Secretary	Grace Schrunk	763-755-0575
Projected Images	Debbie Kippen	763-862-3722
Prints	Shirley Bebensee	651-429-6977
N4C Coordinator	Grace Schrunk	763-755-0575
N4C Digital	Duane Wraalstad	763-755-5247
TCACCC Delegate	Margo Ashmore	612-867-4874
Refreshments	Teresa Sposito	763-781-9981
Webmaster	Debbie Kippen	763-862-3722
Newsletter Editor	Carol Madison	763-781-2083



North Metro Photo Club Competition Categories

Projected Image (Digital/Slide) Competition Categories

2009-2010 Season

August	Prints
September	Nature
October	Food
November	Photojournalism
December	Waterscape*
January	Creative Expression*
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 Competition and Membership.)

*Note – these two categories switched months.

2010-2011 Season

August	Prints
September	Photo Travel
October	Architecture
November	Animals
December	Landscapes
January	Bridges
February	People
March	A Touch of Red
April	Water in all its forms
May	Year-End Banquet

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 Shirley Bebensee (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, one contemporary, and new this year – photo journalism) 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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