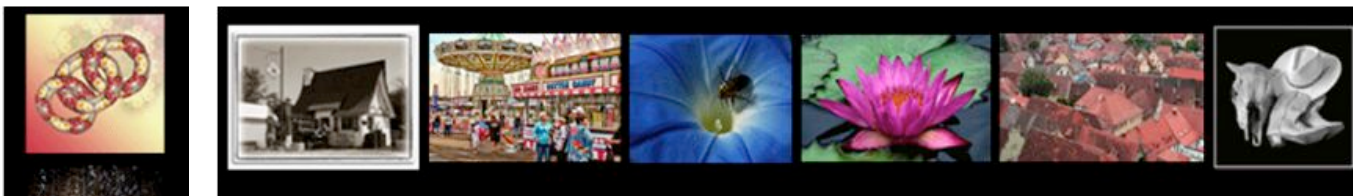


# North Metro Photo Club

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

February  
2010



## North Metro Photo News – newsletter of North Metro Photo Club



### New E-mail Address for N4C Images

Duane has created a new e-mail address for submitting your N4C images. This will separate them from his personal e-mails and help ensure he doesn't miss any of our images.

The new e-mail address is:

[wraalstadd@gmail.com](mailto:wraalstadd@gmail.com)

Please start using the new e-mail with the February entries.

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### Spring Break

Saturday, March 27

at Chippewa Middle School in Shoreview

It's time to register for the annual Spring Break / InterClub event. Information and a registration form were available at the January meeting and can also be found at

[www.cameracouncil.com](http://www.cameracouncil.com)

Get your Individual entries ready and see how you compare with other photographers in the Twin Cities area. Twenty images were submitted by members for the Club entry and they will be put together for submission. Entry forms on the website.

Spring Break / InterClub is always a fun and educational event – and because it is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary for having these events – the **price is \$25 dollars** which includes seminars, lunch and dinner which can't be beat. There will be vendors, Minnesota Wildlife animals, and door prizes – and of course the 2010 Interclub Awards.

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### Judging Events

Saturdays, January 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

Thanks to all who volunteered to help with the International Print Circuit judging events. We were asked to help on two dates instead of the usual one Saturday – and as usual North Metro members came through. These are moneymaking events for the Club so your help is truly appreciated. Vijay Karai who coordinates this Circuit showed his appreciation by donating most of the 'goodies' for the refreshment table at the January meeting.

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## CALENDAR

Feb 18

Regular meeting – 7:00 pm at St. Philips  
Category: Doors and Windows

### Competitions & Contests

Feb 14

Entries due for individual InterClub competition.  
See article on this page and/or  
[www.cameracouncil.org](http://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](http://www.glennie-exhibition.com) for  
more info. Or contact Charlie Burke, Chair, 2010  
Glennie Nature Interclub Exhibition, E-Mail:  
[nichburke@yahoo.com](mailto:nichburke@yahoo.com)

### Upcoming Events

Feb 7

Como Conservatory Winter Flower Show photo event.  
Tripods allowed, 8-10am, cost: \$5.00 per person.

Thru Mar 13

“A Perfect World” photography exhibit at IMF Media  
Arts, 2446 University Av. W, St. Paul.

Mar 20

Down and Dirty Tricks with Adobe Photoshop CS4 – by  
Kelby Training, Minneapolis Convention Center. See:  
[www.kelbytraininglive.com](http://www.kelbytraininglive.com) for more information

Mar 27

Spring Break / InterClub one-day event at Chippewa  
Middle School, North Oaks. See [cameracouncil.org](http://cameracouncil.org) for  
updated information and registration form.

Apr 10-11

John Shaw Nature and Digital Photography Weekend,  
Bloomington, MN. Details and registration form  
available at: [www.photosafaris.com/main/john-shaw-  
photo-seminars-2010](http://www.photosafaris.com/main/john-shaw-photo-seminars-2010)

April 23-25

Springbrook Mini-Convention Held at Springbrook State  
Park near Guthrie Center, IA. A great photo shoot,  
hands on workshops and educational speakers are  
planned. Check out their website for more information -  
<http://www.n4c.us/meetings.htm>

Sep 16-19

N4C Annual Conference, LaCrosse, Wisconsin,  
Radisson Inn.

Oct 3-9

PSA Conference, Charleston, SC, Embassy Suites  
Hotel.

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

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## **E-Mail Address for Submitting Digital Images**

Submit digital images to the following e-mail address:

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

## InterClub Competition

InterClub is an annual competition between clubs  
and individuals. It takes place at the same time and  
location as Spring Break.

**Club Competition:** Twenty images from 20 different  
creators were submitted for the Club competition.

The Council reformatted the Club competition this  
year. North Metro has some of the best  
photographers in the Twin Cities and we will do well  
at Interclub. This is our opportunity to show the other  
clubs what great talent we have!!

**Individual Competition:** Don't forget to review the  
individual competition guidelines for Interclub and  
please consider submitting images for that as well.  
The requirements for the individual competition are  
on the Camera Council website –

[www.cameracouncil.org](http://www.cameracouncil.org)

The closest drop off location for entries is –

Mike Prokosch

1501 Highway 96E

White Bear Lak, MN 55110-3657

(651) 429-6750

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## Camera Council Judging School

Thursday evenings

(4/15, 4/22, 6/17, 6/24, 7/15, 7/22)

TCACC will be offering a six-week course for those  
who wish to become a Camera Council judge.  
Participants will also complete three practice-judging  
sessions at local competitions with a senior judge.  
Course contents include defining the role of a judge,  
discussion on judging rules, presentations on lighting  
and composition, competition criteria, and  
photography assignments with review in class.

Requirements to take the course are:

- Be a member of one of the Camera Council  
member camera clubs;
- You have been a competitor for at least one year  
at club level.

For more information,  
see attached flyer and/or contact –

**Ron Timm 612-701-9647**

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## A Decade of Photos

by Walt Fluegel

Is there such a thing as the most memorable photo of the decade?

No doubt, all the photos you have taken from Y2K to 2010 amounts to a lot of images to sort through. Now think of the photos taken by professionals in sports, photojournalism, science, politics, the arts, and all sorts of other sources. That would be a lot of photos to consider. So if we are to think of this decade where photos circulated around the globe almost instantly, which photo stands out as being the most memorable of the decade? That is an impossible question to answer, but it is a question that helps us evaluate ourselves as photographers. I cannot discuss now why we make photos in the first place, but since of the decade just for us as individuals?

Is your story the same as mine? The TV news comes to us daily with images of politics, social events, personalities, information from science and medical advancements, as well as disasters natural and man made. Political upheaval or unrest of the masses, compete for our interest along with images of man's compassion towards others during floods, tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes, a mine or bridge collapse and winter storms. Is the Katrina disaster more memorable than the 9/11 attack? Is the shock and awe bombing of Baghdad more memorable than the mistreatment of war prisoners captured during the conflict? We see image after image until we can no longer say this one is more memorable than the next. All these photos have an impact on our understanding of the world we live in. But what about our own personal photography? Is there a most memorable photo you have taken during this decade?

Again that is a hard question to answer. In this past decade I found myself being dragged into the first decade of the 21st century with a scanner for my slides, a computer to process the images and a gift of a P&S digital camera. I know my photography has changed as a result. I cannot remember my first digital image, but I know I took more chances in snapping the shutter. One of those chances was using the P&S digital camera to snap images from the TV screen of the inauguration of the 44th president of the USA. I didn't know whether it could be done but I gave it a try. It worked. I know the original camera work was done by other photographers in Washington DC with the backup of all the latest technology and staff of the broadcast

company. I know these TV photos are not mine in the strict sense, but the images from my camera are mine and most memorable.



Is it the collection of photos that are most memorable or is it what the photos represent? That is a question easily answered. To me the inauguration was an emotional time for all Americans of all persuasions because of a profound shift in American history .... a coming of age, a fulfillment of an ideal. A most memorable set of photos be they a swearing in of President Obama, a wedding, a vacation, a graduation, a birth, or any dramatic change in peoples lives becomes memorable through photos. Photos of these kinds help us remember. But to some people, including me, the photo was the event.

An example of this is that chance encounter of seeing a chipmunk standing on her hind legs looking around while leaning on a cedar post. She changed her position slightly and, each time she did so, I clicked. On the 7th click she was looking straight into the camera. There was one more click before the camera flashed "battery" then went dead. That was a memorable time, but was the 7th click my most memorable photo of the decade? We are now back to my original question in the beginning of this article. Is there such a thing as the most memorable photo? Only you, my fellow photographers, can answer that.

Have fun, Walt

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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 is that the lava flow into the ocean has stopped. There is still an intermittent surface flow back in the boondocks that is accessible only by helicopter. The lava lake under the vent at halemaumau has been rising higher than it ever has before. Everyone is waiting to see what happens next.

Everything is kind of dry over here. January is normally our second wettest month but it has only rained twice this whole month. Lots of sunny, blue skies. The only bad thing is the vog. As is normally the case, we have lost the trade winds much of the time which we depend on to move the vog from our side of the island over to Kona so they can cough and gag on it. Thus, especially at the park, we have had to deal with it. The park has had to close the visitor center for a few hours several days this month due to bad air quality. I really hate that because I then have to move everything I use to write permits, maps, etc. to another location in what I call my "bug out kit". Using two big plastic tubs as a portable desk out of the back of a truck is not very fun.

My cat sitting is over with. Catherine was picked up a week ago. Greycy is very happy, as he is now king of the house. I have never seen him play with his toys and enjoy himself so much. He now sleeps with me every night, which he didn't do very often when Catherine was here. Last Friday, Greycy impressed me very much. I had a plane flight to Honolulu to catch at 6:30 am so I had to get up at 4 am. I told Greycy when I had to get up and set the alarm for 4 am. At 3:58 am, Greycy got me up before the alarm even went off. I didn't believe he could read the clock but now I am not so sure.

I had some visitors from Rochester here yesterday who told me it was raining and putting a nice coat of ice on everything when they left. Gee but it's nice to be here and not there putting up with the winter.

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*Landscape photography is the supreme test of the photographer - and often the supreme disappointment. – Ansel Adams*

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## What's Happening Around Here

by Grace E. Andeson Schrunk

I read an article in the local city paper about what a picture tells you. Probably more than you really wanted someone to know. Look at some old family photos; try to make out what the people are saying by the looks on their faces and the positions of each person in the photo.

Photos do tell tales. When everyone is standing, not touching one another, the photo is telling you that the people in the photo don't really like each other. I'm sure when the photo was taken, the participants never would have guessed this little family secret for future generations to see.

When my cousin and I were going through old family photos, we came across wedding photos of a cousin taken by a relative, probably an aunt. The unhappy look on the bride's face was so telling – she would have rather been somewhere else. She had a four-year degree from the U of M, and the groom was on his way to becoming a world renown oral surgeon. From the criteria, this should have been a "marriage made in heaven" as the old saying goes. The wedding took place in June of 1953.

I was at the bride's parental home when the supposedly happy couple arrived so Mavis could change clothes before they left for their honeymoon. My thought at the time was that she was in no hurry to go anywhere and she didn't seem very happy, but then what did I know, I was only 17-years old at the time. They did get divorced twenty years later.

Ah, yes, if we didn't have to look good for the family picture, we also have to look like we are enjoying the moment for future generations to see. It seems the candid shots tell the most tales.

I was watching the news on Channel 9 last week. They had a story about a 150-year old church in Clearwater, a small town on the way to Alexandria. I was there to attend a funeral for a classmate. I admired the old Methodist church, where the interior and the original pews are both painted white. The church is \$10,000 behind on their planned budget for 2009. The pastor had recorded some of his music, hoping to earn some money to help the church. It is always fun to see a location on TV, and say to yourself, "I've been there" whether it is close to home or on the other side of the globe.

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For all of us who love to read, I would highly recommend the book "Little Heathens" by Mildred Kalish. The book is a memoir, set in Iowa during the 20's and 30's. It is just a side splitter; every page has a laugh or two, probably, even recalling a situation from your own growing up years.

I have lived on "my mile-long road" for 54 years now, so I've seen the older generation leave, or what I termed "older" when we first came to live on the dead end dirt road in 1956. All the people who came out in 1935, or there about, are all gone of course. Now the next group that came out during the 50's are starting to leave and I don't mean moving off the road.

Two of my neighbors, have passed away within the past two weeks, one was 65 the other one was 76. It has been a pleasure to get to know my neighbors, on the south side of 113<sup>th</sup> and also heartbreaking to see them depart, as we are all getting older. These are good neighbors who helped to make living here an extra pleasure. You could go to any one of them, if you needed something done or needed to borrow a tool to finish a project.

I have always been grateful to live here, with a few acres, to enjoy the wild life and the privacy. Yet, on a whim I can take off and go to a big box store a mile away. It is and has been, the very best of both worlds for over half of a century.

\* \* \*

*The stately ship is seen no more,  
The fragile skiff attains the shore;  
And while the great and wise decay,  
And all their trophies pass away,  
Some sudden thought, some careless rhyme,  
Still floats above the wrecks of Time.*

*William Lecky(1838-1903)*

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## The 35W

Thanks to Doug Heimstead for providing Club members with a detailed map and sample images of good places to shoot the new 35W bridge.

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## How to Critique a Photograph

By Mary Goodrich

(Reprinted from Hilo Photo Club June 2009 newsletter – the Hilo Club does not have monthly competitions as North Metro does so this article was written to give their members a 'heads up' for a critique session held last June – and it is good information for newer members of North Metro to see how judges look at images.)

*"Criticism, like rain, should be gentle enough to nourish a man's growth without destroying his roots."  
– Frank A. Clark, writer (1911-)*

In hearing what others have to say about our work we can gain a more objective viewpoint and further the development of our art and craft. There are many ways to critique and different groups may have their own rules. What follows is merely a suggested starting place and is not meant to say that this is how a critique is to be done. These are ideas gleaned from the Internet and from photography groups I have been a part of. I hope that as time goes on and critique becomes a valuable resource for us that others will contribute ideas for refining the process.

The critique is basically in two parts: what has been done well and what could be improved. The focus is on providing feedback that will help the artist - and others - learn something. The work is usually kept covered until the whole group sees it at the same time. One method is for a panel of 4 or 5 judges to give their undivided attention to one image at a time while putting aside any value judgments about the image. The purpose of this moment of observation is so that the meaning of the image can become clear and they can begin to sort their thoughts before speaking. The initial question for the viewers/judges is not, "is this a good or a bad photograph?" but "what is this image about and what does it say to me?"

Another way we could do this is to open up comment to the entire group. The maker (of the image) and the group at large could be free to debate points as they arise. If we do a critique this way, one person at a time should speak. The maker would not receive any benefit from hearing several people talking at once.

**To the giver of the critique:** Be gentle but be thorough. Of course, we want to be able to say "nice" things about someone's work and it is important to tell the photographer what they are doing right. Bear in mind that the person receiving

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an honest and constructive evaluation of their work, including both negative and positive points, is receiving a gift of great value. Deliver a negative observation as a suggestion rather than as something you see as “wrong”. There is nothing that cannot be said with kindness.

**To the receiver of the critique:** Having resistance to hearing the negatives about our work is natural. Rather than having a defensive stance, be glad that you are becoming aware of the image’s perceived flaws in this context, rather than being rejected from a show and not knowing why. Or you might learn that your image has winning qualities that you have underestimated.

Consider all suggestions and the feedback that is given to you, but only adopt for your own that which rings true. It is okay to answer specific questions from the giver of the critique, but don’t spend time talking back or trying to explain yourself. It is best to listen and learn from the comments.

Although methods and order of the points to be considered differ for different groups, the critique generally focuses on several main areas. The questions below each point are suggestions.

**Description of the photo** - What do you see first? Why does this element stand out? When discussing a photograph, one cannot simply say, “I like (or don’t like) this photograph” without adding a reason why. If you don’t know why you like it, then don’t say anything. “I like the sky” does not say anything of value to the maker. “I like the deep blue color of the sky because it contrasts well with the red barn and yellow flowers” tells the maker something.

**Feeling/Interpretation** – What is the initial emotional response to the image? Does it have impact? How does it make you feel to look at it; mad, sad, happy? Did the maker convey his message or theme clearly? Does it tell the story? Are there things in the photo that symbolically represent something else? Is the photo so personal that the meaning of it is lost on viewers? Does the technique used match the mood of the photograph?

**Technical & Craftsmanship** - While there is no absolute right or wrong way to make a photograph, most technical errors are obvious. Is the main subject well placed in the frame; is it sharp, clear and in focus? Do you immediately know what the main subject is or is it unreadable? Would more or less

depth of field add something to the photograph? Would a wider or longer choice of lens have worked better?

Is the photo exposed properly? Are the colors and white balance accurate? Are there under or overexposed areas that are distracting? Is the contrast too low or too high? How is the background rendered? How does the background add or detract from the photo?

Was the photographer close enough to the subject? Does the crop/format suit the subject? Are elements included that could be omitted to make a stronger composition? Would the image be better in black and white (or color)? Did the maker use lead lines to draw attention and guide viewer’s eyes through the picture?

**Presentation** – If it is a print, are there spots, stains, or signs of mishandling? Is it properly matted and to an appropriate size and color?

**Artistic Content** - Artistic considerations are much looser than the technical and supposed “errors” may be intentional. If the image has been intentionally over or under exposed, color changed or otherwise manipulated, the person may have meant to do that, but is it effective?

**Review and Summary** – Optional: if someone were keeping notes they could briefly review the strengths and the specific points that could improve this particular photo. We can understand if you choose not to be critiqued, but we hope that you will decide to bring 2 photographs to the June meeting!

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## Captained Cruises

Ever thought about photographing the Apostle Islands? Capt. Dave Shores will be offering weekend photo adventures aboard the ZaBreeNa, a 36-ft. Sabre sloop docked at Pike’s Bay Marina near Bayfield, Wisconsin. The weather and wind direction will influence exact destinations, but popular points of interest include Stockton Is., Outer Is., Raspberry Is., Devil’s Is., and Michigan Is.

Contact Capt. Dave via cell phone: 651–336–7357 and/or [skipperDAS@gmail.com](mailto:skipperDAS@gmail.com)

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# January 2010 NMPC Competition Results

**Judge: Russ Borud**

## Category – Open

Points

- 15 Egret in Flight – Bruce Barsness
- 14 Snow on Red – Maxine Fluegel
- 13 Muir Woods Web – Janet Hanson
- 13 Mt. Lemon Sunset – Fran Warzeha
- 12 35W Abstract – Doug Heimstead
- 12 Rip Tide – Gerry Bakken
- 12 Steppinwolf – Kelly Marquart
- 12 Highway to Heaven – Kathy Wall
- 12 Goldfinch at Feeder – Duane Wraalstad
- 12 Old Barn and Tree – Don Natwick
- 12 Oxbow Bend at Tetons – Jean McDonough
- 12 Harbor Reflections – Carol Madison

## Category – Creative Expression

- 15 Flaming Hot Rod – Carol Madison
- 14 Around Rice Park – Doug Heimstead
- 14 Yellow Iris – Duane Wraalstad
- 14 Crab Apple Framed 2 – Walt Fluegel
- 14 Basket for Flowers 4 – Walt Fluegel
- 13 Sisters – Michel Lindstedt
- 13 Almost to the Top – Sue Dilcher
- 13 Trees and Skyline – Don Natwick
- 12 Ghost Driver – Shirley Bebensee
- 12 Roses and Musical Keys – Jean McDonough
- 12 Three Bottles – Rachel Cain

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Egret in Flight



Flaming Hot Rod

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

No results received.

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TCACCC

## North Metro Photo Club Information

**Affiliated with:** Camera Council (formerly 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 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](mailto:carmadison@msn.com).

**Website:** [www.northmetrophotoclub.org](http://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 5<sup>th</sup> of the month to: [northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com](mailto:northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com).

**Print Competitions** – Send / deliver prints to Shirley Bebensee (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.

### N4C Digital Competition Submissions

Send N4C digital images (one pictorial, one nature, one contemporary, and new this year – photo journalism) to Duane at [wraalstadd@gmail.com](mailto:wraalstadd@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**

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