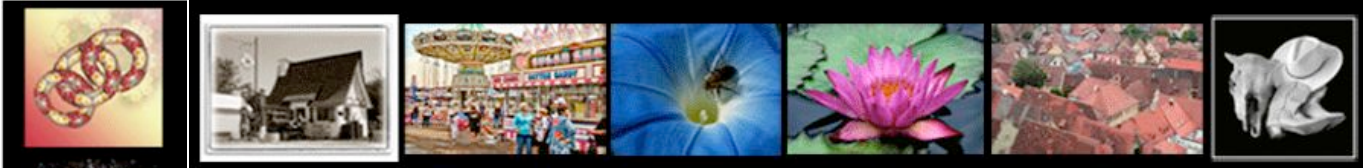


North Metro Photo Club

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



North Metro Photo Club (NMPC)

Member Handbook



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Revised: April 2010

Quotations

“A photographer may be, as Webster defines it, ‘one who photographs’, but a photographic artist, is one who observes and sees, who feels and expresses, reacts and interprets, listens and thinks, and responds.”

~ Brooks Jensen

“Cameras and lenses are simply tools to place our unique vision on film. Concentrate on equipment and you’ll take technically good photographs. Concentrate on seeing the light’s magic colors and your images will stir the soul.”

~ Jack Dykinga

“In my mind’s eye, I visualize how a particular...sight and feeling will appear on a print. If it excites me, there is a good chance it will make a good photograph. It is an intuitive sense, an ability that comes from a lot of practice.”

~ Ansel Adams

“....I cannot command the creative impulse on demand. I never know in advance precisely what I will photograph. I go out into the world and hope I will come across something that imperatively interests me. I am addicted to the found object. I have no doubt that I will continue to make photographs till my last breath.”

~ Ansel Adams

Past Presidents

Kathy Wall	2009 –	Lyle Bradley	1996 – 1997
Jean McDonough	2008 – 2009	Locke Perkins	1994 – 1996
Maxine Fluegel	2007 – 2008	Vijay Karai	1993 – 1994
Duane Wraalstad	2005 – 2007	Duane Wraalstad	1991 – 1993
Jean McDonough	2003 – 2005	Terry George	1990 – 1991
Rachel Cain	2002 – 2003	Warren & Paula Johnson	1988 – 1990
Tim Halvorson	2001 – 2002	Sue Dilcher	1987 – 1988
John Borman	1998 – 2001	Cheryl Boujevac	1986 – 1987
Chuck Brown	1997 – 1998	Duane Wraalstad	1985 – 1986
		George Jensen	1983 – 1985

North Metro Photo Club

Welcome !

Our club members help each other become better photographers through personal contact, competitions, and helpful programs. Our skills range from the beginner to the serious photographer who is willing to share photo expertise. How to get the most from the camera can be a challenge to all of us. **Visit our website at www.northmetrophotoclub.org**

Meetings: At St. Philips Lutheran Church, 6180 NE Hwy. 65, Fridley, MN at 7:00 p.m. on Third Thursdays August through May (no June or July) and most Fifth Thursdays (except May and December).

Third Thursday meetings include announcements; bragging rights and other business as well as competition on assigned topics and open category along with break time and socializing, helpful programs and help time.

Fifth Thursday meetings are devoted to print competition as an open category, member image shows and/or programs or help time.

For more information or questions about the club email to northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com

Membership Dues: Membership is open to anyone interested in photography regardless of experience or skill. Individual \$20, Family \$30 / year due in May. Anyone joining after March 1 will have membership for the current and upcoming year. After September 30 of each competition year, only members who have paid their dues will be eligible to submit images for judging. Membership includes a monthly digital or hard copy of the newsletter.

Competition: Eight out of ten Third Thursday meetings include digital image competitions. Most members have gone digital, but slides from those who have not can be scanned by members with scanners and submitted as digitals. Assigned topics are posted in the newsletter, *North Metro Photo News*, for the current and following years. Judges are asked to be liberal in category interpretation. Print competitions, open category, are held one Third Thursday and most Fifth Thursdays. Competition times are posted in each newsletter. (See how to submit images on page 4.) The third Thursday in May is the Club's annual banquet and End of the Year competition.

Judging: This might be done by an outside judge from a different camera club, or from the art or professional photo community. There may be times when three club members form a judging panel. (See page 4 in this handbook for information about scoring of images.)

Miscellaneous Club Activities

Bragging Rights: At each business meeting, members tell about published photography, exhibitions at galleries or fairs, images sold for calendars, and so forth.

Ten-minute presentations: Many Fifth Thursday meetings, members may present ten-minute digital/slide/print shows on any subject, idea, or a series of images, slides or prints. These are not judged and receive no points. Just for fun!

Yankee Swap: For the December meeting each member brings an inexpensive, wrapped, unmarked gift of serious, dubious or humorous value. These gifts are opened and "exchanged" until all are thoroughly mixed up just for fun.

Submitting Digital Images and Prints

All images submitted must be the end result of a photograph taken by the maker. All members are assigned a member number to be used for submission of competition entries. Each month any member may enter two (2) slides and/or digital images for the Category competition and two (2) slides and/or digital images for the Open competition.

Slides will be scanned by volunteer members with scanners and presented with the digital entries. Category subjects (and definitions where there is an established one) for the current and following years are published regularly in the *North Metro Photo News* newsletter.

Digital Images – Digital images should be sized as jpg to 1024 on the longest side. Mark each digital image with month, year, your member number and the title. For example: **090789 Black Bug** Use a zero in front of all single numbers like 09 for September, and use double numbers where applicable such as 11 for November or 89 for your assigned number. Leave a space between the last number and the image name, as well as inside the image name. Title all images with a different title. Email images to **northmetrophotoclub@hotmail.com** by fifth of the month.

Prints – Print competition will be held one third Thursday meeting of the year and most fifth Thursdays as designated by the Executive Board. Category is “open”. Up to four (4) prints may be entered for each competition: two (2) prints in Color and two (2) prints in Monochrome (a print having no more than two colors – various tones of gray or sepia plus one other color). Prints should be no larger than 16 X 20 including borders, mounting, and matting (matting is optional). There is no minimum size, but anything under 8 x 8 should be mounted on a piece of mat board, foam board, cardboard or heavy paper at least 8 x 8 or 8 x 10 (except for panoramas). Prints may be self-printed or commercially printed. Mark all prints on the top left back with the same numbering and titles as shown under “digital” above. Bring/drop off your prints to the designated drop off point(s) by the fifth of the month or at/by the third Thursday meeting preceding a fifth Thursday print competition.

Scoring – All images are judged based on Composition, Technique, and Impact. Composition is the arrangement of all elements within the picture area so the subject matter is presented as a harmonious, well-balanced photograph. Technique is the technical aspect of the photo – focus, lighting, color rendition, exposure, print quality, and mounting. Impact (or interest) consists of originality, imagination, interpretation, subject, impact, mood, humor, etc. Images are scored from 1 to 15 points. Images that earn 12, 13, 14, or 15 points MAY NOT be submitted at Club competitions in the future; but they MAY be submitted elsewhere (N4C, PSA, Interclub, etc.) They are included in the End of the Year competition and judged for honors, including Photographer of the Year in various competitions including Slide/Digital Category, Slide/Digital Open, Color Prints, Monochrome Prints as well as Runner Up of the Year and Honorable Mentions in all competitions. Any images scoring below acceptance level MAY be submitted at future Club competitions.

North Metro Photo Club Affiliations

Our Club belongs to three other photographic groups: Camera Council, N4C, and PSA. Many competitions are available within a larger group than are possible in a single club. A partial listing of opportunities through each group follows:

Camera Council (TCACCC) – formerly Twin Cities Area Council of Camera Clubs:

- www.cameracouncil.org with connections to roughly 15 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 pays yearly Club dues to TCACCC based on number of members.
- North Metro Photo appoints a delegate to the council.

TCACCC Spring Break and Interclub Competition:

TCACCC sponsors a yearly Spring Break in late March or early April with a variety of educational presentations, guest speakers and club-presented programs. At the same time, an Interclub competition of photographic slides, digitals, and prints among TCACCC member clubs is sponsored. Details of this program and competition are given to participating clubs and online at www.cameraclubcouncil.org a few months before the event.

N4C (North Central Camera Club Council):

- www.n4c.us (over 40 member clubs from MN, WI, IA, ND, SD, NE, IL, MO, KS, WY).
- 8 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 pays yearly Club dues to N4C based on number of members.
- North Metro Photo appoints an N4C coordinator and/or Submissions Chair.



N4C Rules for Digital Competition Submissions:

Image files must be in jpg file format. File size no more than 500 KB. Maximum image width (horizontal) is 1024 pixels. Maximum image height (vertical) is 768 pixels. Smaller images acceptable.

Naming image files – Example: **01,NA028,DP,Beautiful Sunset.jpg**. (This takes the place of entry forms.)

01, = used on all entries. N4C Contact from entrant's Club may change to sequentially number filename submissions – from 01 up to 08.

NA028, = entrant's personal N4C Member number: NA is North Metro Photo's code. 028, = entrant's personal ID number within our Club.

DP, = Digital Pictorial contest category; **DN**, = Digital Nature; **DJ**, = Photojournalism;

DC, = Contemporary.

Beautiful Sunset = entrant's title for image and **.jpg** = file extension format of file.

N4C digital images (one pictorial, one nature, one photojournalism, and/or one contemporary) are due to the N4C Submissions Chair by the fifth of each month except June, July, August and December. See below for a brief description of these categories taken from N4C website:

The following subject **category definitions** are presented as a guide to persons entering the monthly contests so that all entries may be judged fairly and equally. To some extent, their interpretation is subjective and all judges have some personal biases. It is our intent to minimize these differences. These definitions are as clear and precise as we are able to state them, though it is not possible to cover all eventualities and answer all questions. Generally, those entries that conform most closely to the subject definitions have the greatest chance of success in the contests. Go to N4C's website www.n4c.us for further discussion.

What is **Pictorial** Photography? In pictorial photography we are concerned with the artistic quality of the presentation of the subject rather than with the subject itself. Literally, all subjects qualify, but since "Interest" accounts for one-third of the score, subjects that catch the viewer's eye will

have an advantage. The judges will be seeking answers to the question, "Did the photographer simply record the subject, or did he/she through the photographic process enhance the viewer's interest in the subject?" Pictorialism may be accomplished by meticulous photographic technique, proper presentation, careful composition, or most likely all of these factors.

What is **Nature** Photography?

- No photograph is worth the distress or injury to any wild creature.
- Nature photography is simply the recording of our natural world by some photographic means. Included are all branches of nature except Archeology and Anthropology.
- The hand of man shall not be present in any nature entry except where wild birds or animals have invaded mans world such as fence posts and other man made objects freely adapted for use by wild creatures.
- Banding or tagging on nature subjects is acceptable. Photographs at bird feeders are not acceptable if any part of a man made feeder is shown in the photograph.
- Photographs taken in zoos, animal farms or game farms are acceptable as long as the setting remains natural and the hand of man is not visible.
- Cultivated plants, domestic animals and pets are not acceptable and should be entered in other categories.

What is **Photojournalism**? Photojournalism means simply the telling of a story by the use of a picture. The type of photograph that one sees in the newspaper or magazines that depicts some event or activity is what is meant. The caption is important, but the best journalistic photographs tell their own stories and don't always need a caption. A good picture is, after all, worth more than a thousand words. An element of human interest is important and virtually essential for pictures to succeed in competition. Interest is paramount, but good composition and technique will often make the difference that decides the winners.

The only digital editing that can be allowed must fit with the N4C definition for acceptable Photojournalism or Nature images. In the interest of credibility, photographs which misrepresent the truth, such as manipulation to alter the subject matter, or situations which are set up for the purpose of photography, are unacceptable. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged, combined or changed in any way that affects the integrity of the image content. No manipulation or modification is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene. No special effect filters can be added or applied, and any sharpening must appear natural.

What is **Contemporary/Creative** Photography? Contemporary/Creative photography is an opportunity for those who dare to explore the experimental and creative forms of photographic expression. These will include, but not be limited to derived images, ultra-high contrast, black light, bas-relief, solarization, multi-images, trick lenses and filters, and other ways to alter the image to produce a new abstract effect. Just about anything goes. The important thing is the result, not the means to create it. This area of photography bridges between photographic realism and creative art. It is very difficult to judge and there are literally no rules to follow. Generally concentration on form and color rather than detail in the image will help you succeed.

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.
- Star ratings based on acceptances and winners in competitions.
- Rents out DVD's and videos on many photo topics.
- PSA Journal, monthly.



- North Metro Photo pays yearly Club dues to PSA.
- North Metro Photo appoints a representative to the society.

PSA Competitions:

Each year PSA sponsors international competitions in nature, prints, color slides/digital, and botany. Because these are international competitions, small charges are made for submission. In all of the competitions, which the club members participate, this is the only one for which members pay extra. Contact Club PSA representative or go online for more information.

Officers and Chairs

Elected Officers:

In March, current President appoints a Nominating Committee, composed of three members not on the executive board, to find a slate of officers. They will obtain agreement from nominees to serve if elected. Other nominations may be made from the floor as above. Membership votes in April. New officers begin terms at end of May meeting.

President: Conducts Business and Executive Board (the Board) meetings, appoints committee chairs as needed for Club functions and jobs. Arranges meeting place(s). Brings up issues and important information to Club members. Available for any member or officer questions. Assists as needed.

Vice President: Conducts meetings in President's absence, plans programs and recruits judges for each meeting, works closely with Competition Chair to deliver images to judges. Acts as a Club Director on Executive Board.

Treasurer: Collects dues/pays bills, creates yearly budget to present to club in April, does monthly financial report to Club, keeps updated membership list and name tags. Acts as a Club Director on Executive Board.

Secretary: Provides Club information to new members, takes notes from Board meetings and reports them to Club, sends Thank You notes to judges and program presenters and sends cards to others as needed. Acts as a Club Director on Executive Board.

Appointed Committee Chairs (considered part of the Executive Board):

Competition Chair: Receives photo images (slide/digital), works with Vice President to deliver images to judges, and runs competitions at Club meetings. Keeps point scores for all members. Maintains digital/slide projectors, Club laptop, and projection screens (2). Appoints assistants as needed.

Print Chair: Receives prints for all print competitions (convenient print drop-off site(s) are assigned at beginning of club year), delivers them to judges, shows prints at Club, and transmits point scores to Competition Chair.

N4C Delegate: Tells Club of N4C events and competitions. May appoint assistants to coordinate N4C competition submissions.

Camera Council (TCACCC) Delegate: Attends meetings and informs Club of TCACCC meetings, activities, and competitions.

PSA Contact: Informs Club of PSA happenings and competitions.

Newsletter Editor: Gathers information and images from and about Club activities and upcoming plans and puts into the monthly newsletter, North Metro Photo News. Includes Club competition categories and results as well as calendar of events.

Refreshments Chair: Coordinates Club volunteers to bring goodies for each Club meeting. Is in charge of Club-provided cups/glasses, silverware, plates, and napkins. Coordinates annual Spring Banquet.

Webmaster: Maintains, updates www.northmetrophotoclub.org with current information and photos.

Outings and Social Chair: Plans outings and excursions for Club members.

Tutorial Chair: Plans and executes learning programs over and above normal meeting programs.

Interclub Chair: Assists members in planning submissions to TCACCC Interclub competitions each Spring. Coordinates North Metro Club's responsibilities when the Club is assigned to help with Interclub (which occurs rarely, last happened in 2008).

Membership Chair: Greet visitors and new members at meetings. Answer questions and give information about the Club. Introduce them to other members. Arrange to have one or two newsletters sent to potential members. Accept membership fees from new members and obtain pertinent information from them to pass on to Treasurer and Newsletter Editor.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTH METRO PHOTO CLUB

Article I - Name

This organization shall be known as the North Metro Photo Club.

Article II - Aim and Purpose

The purpose of this club is to foster interest in photography, to provide an effective medium for exchanging ideas, to develop and improve the photographic skill and competence of its members, and to cooperate with other organizations in worthwhile photographic activities.

Article III - Meetings

Regular meetings of the club shall have place, date, and time stipulated by the executive board.

All official meetings of the club and the executive board shall be conducted in accordance with Roberts "Rules of Order".

Article IV - Membership

Any person seriously interested and willing to assist and participate in the interests and activities of the photographic club may apply for membership.

Article V - Officers

The following officers shall be elected by the membership: (1) president, (2) vice-president, (3) secretary, (4) treasurer.

Article VI - Committees

Chairpersons of standing committees shall be appointed by the president with the approval of the executive board.

Special committees may be appointed by the president as required and discharged by the president when they have completed their assignments.

Article VII - Executive Board

The management of the club shall be directed by the executive board composed of the elected officers (article V), the chair-persons of appointed committees, and the immediate past president. Club members may attend, question, and comment at board meetings, but may not vote on board matters. The executive board shall meet as often as necessary (not less than three times per year) to transact the business of the club.

Article VIII - Amendments

Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by any member. Any proposed amendment will be brought up at two consecutive meetings. Voting on any amendment proposed will be made by secret ballot after the second reading. Absentee members will be notified of the proposal via the club newsletter. An absentee member may request an absentee ballot from the secretary. Such absentee ballot to be included in the vote total. Two thirds vote required for the passage of the proposal.

Procedures for Proposed Amendments to the By-Laws will be the same as those for amendments to the Constitution.

BYLAWS

Article I - Finance

The annual dues shall be an amount determined, as needed, by the executive board. The competition year will begin June 1 and end May 31.

Article II - Elections

Election of club officers shall be held annually in April. The president shall appoint a nominating committee composed of three members not on the executive board. The committee will prepare a single slate of officers and obtain agreement from the nominees to serve if elected. The chairperson shall present the slate at the April meeting. Additional nominations can be made from the floor. A written ballot shall be taken, if necessary.

Vacancies in club officers shall be filled by the president, subject to approval by the executive board. Vacancy of the president's office shall be filled by advancement of the vice-president.

Article III - Duties of Elected Officers

President: Conducts Business and Executive Board (the Board) meetings, appoints committee chairs as needed for Club functions and jobs. Arranges meeting place(s). Brings up issues and important information to Club members. Available for any member or officer questions. Assists as needed.

Vice President: Conducts meetings in President's absence, plans programs and recruits judges for each club meeting, works closely with Competition Chair to deliver images to judges. Acts as a Club Director on Executive Board.

Treasurer: Collects dues/pays bills, creates yearly budget to present to club in April, does monthly financial report to Club, keeps updated membership list and name tags. Acts as a Club Director on Executive Board.

Secretary: Provides Club information to new members, takes notes from Board meetings and reports them to Club, sends Thank You notes to judges and program presenters and sends cards to others as needed. Acts as a Club Director on Executive Board.

So that the regular meetings can be devoted mostly to the exhibit and to discussion of pictorial photography, most of the ordinary club business will be conducted by the board of directors.

Article IV - Duties of Committees

The activities of club committees shall be determined by the executive board. The activities decided upon shall thereafter be carried out by the committee chairpersons and the members appointed to the respective committees.

Standing committee chairpersons shall prepare reports of activities and progress periodically for presentation to the executive board or to the membership of the club and act as club directors on the executive board.

Article V - Membership

Section 1: Each member is encouraged to submit images at each regular exhibit meeting for competitive judging and critiquing. The number of images to be submitted for each competition is to be determined by the board.

Section 2: Members are encouraged to submit images for inclusion in special events such as N4C, TCACCC (interclub) and international competitions.

Section 3: In addition to taking part in competitions, a member is encouraged to attend meetings and to assist with club activities and programs when requested.

Article VI - Quorum

A quorum of the membership for the purpose of conducting club business shall consist of not less than one third of the entire membership.