



North Central Camera Club Council

N4C Summer 2024 News Bulletin

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Hello N4C family

I am hoping you are all having a great summer so far. It has been a wild one to say the least. Flooding, winds, hail, etc. I hope everyone is whole. I am writing this month to invite you to the fall convention being hosted by the Sioux City Camera Club. Preparations have been going for several years, so they have had plenty of time to make it a gang buster.

Your registration is attached to this newsletter so please share with your club members. The only way we will be able to continue this great tradition of N4C is if we all help keep these conventions full. Carl has repeatedly assured us that this convention cost will be minimal. He also said he is buying the first beer. j/k I don't even know if Carl drinks. NOTE: Yes, I drink but only 2 drinks per day.

As I spend my summer running in-between, summer school, gymnastics, soccer and Highschool fishing league I often realize that I should be bringing my camera along. Then I realize that in my pocket is a computer so advanced that it could have launched the Apollo Space Craft. Also has a camera on it. SO, get out, take some photos and have some fun the rest of the summer. I will see you in Nebraska in October.

Paul Hagen
Fargo Moorhead Camera Club
N4C President 2023-2024 season



**Think, Imagine, Create
In Siouxland**

2024 N4C Convention Oct. 3 - 5

2024 N4C Fall Convention "Think, Image, Create in Siouxland"

October 3-5, 2024, Ponca State Park, Ponca, Nebraska

NOTE: Carl Hardy, Chairman of the Convention is repeating this article on the 2024 N4C Convention, October 3-5.

Please see: [Booking.com Hotels & Vacation Rentals](#)

Bookings.com is one of the highest rated online hotels booking sites.

Please use it to book hotels in the Siouxland area for your accommodations for the 2024 N4C Fall Convention in Ponca State Park. Click on the link.

<https://www.booking.com>

Here is the 2024 N4C Convention website page. Click on the link. It will take you to the website developed by Sioux City Camera Club webmaster Doug Conrad. There you will be able to see all that is planned for the Convention and register by clicking on Registration tab or use the Register now item at the bottom of page 1.

There are tabs throughout the website to explain The Event Schedule, Field Trips and Programs, Program Presenters, Registration, and Contact.

www.2024n4convention.com

The Sioux City Camera Club's Convention Committees are working on the details of the 2024 N4C Convention, " Think, Image, Create in Siouxland". Ponca State Park the headquarters of the convention provides a unique opportunity to photograph a public recreation area located on the banks of the Missouri River four miles (6.4 km) north of [Ponca, Nebraska](#), in the northeastern corner of the state.

Ponca State Park's approximately 2,100 acres are situated among high bluffs and steep, forested hills adjacent to the [National Recreational River](#).

The Park is noted for its biodiversity Eastern woodland flowers. The wild plum and gooseberry thickets were also noted by the Lewis & Clark Expedition who passed these bluffs with their Corps of Discovery in the summer of 1804. Forested ravines and hillsides contain many unique trees.

White-tailed deer and wild turkey are commonly seen. Coyotes, and red-grey foxes and bobcats are often spotted. This area is also known for the concentrations of waterfowl that congregate during the spring and fall migrations. The barred owl is a vocal resident, and wintering bald eagles are often sighted.



Welcome Center at Ponca State Park (Headquarters for the 2024 N4C Fall Convention)



Cabins currently are all booked many by N4C members. The Sioux City Camera Club organizers will list alternate accommodations in the Special Edition of the N4C Summer Bulletin. A hotel you can check out is the Oak Trail Inn in Ponca, Nebraska. https://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotel_Review-g45780-d23734943-Reviews-Oak_Trail_Inn-Ponca_Nebraska.html

Booking.com Hotels & Vacation Rentals

Bookings.com is one of the highest rated online hotels booking sites. Please use it to book hotels in the Siouxland area for your accommodations for the 2024 N4C Fall Convention in Ponca State Park.

<https://www.booking.com>

Ponca State Park also offers the Turkey Ridge Campground. Requires no reservation, first come first serve. According to Tom Schoening, Co-Chairman of the Convention there should be plenty of room for campers in October.

<https://www.campendium.com/turkey-ridge-campground-nebraska>

Ponca also offers Electric Plus, Electric and Basic camping. Campgrounds include modern restrooms, showers, picnic tables, fire pits, nearby water spigots (not hookups), a dump and fill station and playground <https://outdoornebraska.gov/location/ponca/>



Best of the N4C Winners Roundup for the Sioux City, IA Fall Convention

First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention winners in all categories of the 2023-24 monthly contests are eligible to be judged in the Annual Best of N4C Contest. Merit award winners are NOT eligible.

These N4C Winners are in and being judged. Results will be presented by the Omaha Camera Club at the 2024 N4C Convention, October 3-5.

Due to low entry numbers both the Photo Essay Annual Competition and the Photojournalism Story contests were not judged at the Mini-Spring Convention. Deadlines for these two contests have been extended and results will be presented at the 2024 N4C Annual Fall Convention. The Rules for the Video Story Contest are also listed.

As per Dwight Tomes, Contest Chair for Photo Essay Annual Competition and Carl Hardy, Contest Chair for the Photojournalism Story Contest. Carl Hardy is also the Chair for the Video Story Contest.

Photo Essay Annual Competition (2024)

1. A photo essay is a series of projectable images accompanied by music and/or a narrative which tell an integrated story presented in a pleasing and understandable manner. **The deadline for receipt of entries is August 15th, the winners will be announced at the 2024 Fall N4C Convention.**
2. The essays will be shown at the N4C Fall convention and winners will be announced. Members may submit one entry per year with a maximum number of member entries per club of 8 as in other digital contests (see #10 for point accrual.) Essays submitted in past years that were not chosen as 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or HM in a previous contest can be reedited and resubmitted. In addition, a club may also submit one club entry in which one or more members may work collaboratively on an essay. Customarily, the club president or other club officer submits a club entry. Club entries **are not** awarded points toward the Club of the Year Award.
3. The minimum number of images shall be twenty (20). There is not a limit on the maximum number of images, but the program time shall not exceed six (6) minutes. *Hint: most winning entries in the past few years have been between 4-5 minutes.* Only still images (*not Video Clips*) can be used to compose the Photo Essay. The “Ken Burns” effect is permitted on individual images. **The images must be the work of the entrant(s)**
4. The photo essay contest incorporates a sound track along with imagery that can consist of music, narration, or any combination of the two. The source of sound files can be (a) self-recorded sound made at the same approximate time as images were made, (b) narration/music recorded specifically for the essay either by the author (or local individuals who collaborate with the author of the essay), (c) royalty **pre-paid** music (source must be provided), or (d) pre-recorded music that is now royalty free (eg. royalty expired) or which has permission from copyright owner. Note that the photo-essay should identify the source of the sound/music/narration. *Note that the maker or club entering the contest should not be identified in the electronic file of the essay. Author identification should be in the form accompanying the essay or via e-mail to the contest chair for photo essays.*
5. **Standard N4C naming will be used with the photo essay contest—with the file name used for the .mp4 entry submitted via Dropbox to d.tomes@me.com.** Normally a link to the author’s dropbox account sent to this e-mail address is the easiest way to retrieve the essay. A USB memory stick may be used to send an entry by mail to the contest chair (Please inform the

contest chair!). Although the file name is sufficient for entering the contest, e-mail communication with the maker's name, e-mail address, and telephone number is helpful if technical assistance is desired. The photo essay chair will confirm receipt of the photo essay via e-mail within 1-2 days.

6. Entries can be created in any software, but the entry must be entered as a "universal" file format such as .mp4 or .mov, playable on all computers. The entrant(s) may have non-professional, unpaid assistance in converting the entry to the standard format of .mp4 or .mov as needed. The .mp4 file format is preferred. The entrant's photo essay should be sent to the Contest Chair in the specified file type via Dropbox (see above). The Photo-Essay Chair will assemble all entries for judging (see # 9), for showing at the Spring Mini-convention, and at the Fall Convention.
7. There shall be three judges (consistent with other N4C contests) for this contest who may be from either multiple individual clubs or hosted by a specific judging club. The contest chair will show the essays in person or via zoom depending on the choice of the three judges for the contest (either from one or multiple clubs). The judges of the contest will not be able to submit entries to the contest the year they are judging. Judges who are not members of any affiliated club in N4C may be used if they have sufficient experience in judging photography contests like those in N4C and are willing to complete the necessary forms and provide feedback to contest entrants.
8. All the following must be considered by the judges: (a.) Quality of the photography, (b.) Soundtrack Quality (music and narrative if included) and (c) Impact, interest, and integration of sound and images. The correlation with TCI for scoring is as follows: a. T technique, emphasis primarily on the image quality of the photography used throughout the essay, b. Soundtrack may include both voice and approved music such as copyright free, provided in software license paid (see below), c. Integration of imagery and sound in a pleasing manner.
9. The contest chair will attempt to conduct the judging at a time and place where interested individuals may attend in addition to the judges. Judges will be asked to view the essays and prepare their scores for TCI and submit to the judging chair in advance of a group meeting of all judges and the judging chair. This last step may be in person or via Zoom. The judges are asked to comment on essays for the benefit of the other judges and/or attending audience. It is suggested that the judges' comments be made available to those entrants and the public who were unable to attend the judging. The photo essay chair will provide a computer other means to present the essays for judging and record the results of the judges.
10. By tradition, all entries are shown at the Spring mini-convention meeting in late April/ early May (*If the Spring mini-convention cannot be held, the entries will be shown at the Fall Convention.) Essays will be judged in advance of the fall convention. The winners will be announced at the fall convention after essays are shown. The first, second, third place and HM winners will also be presented at the Fall convention during one of the banquets.
11. Clubs will accrue points toward the Club of the Year Award as follows:
First – 8 points, Second – 6 points, Third – 4 points, Honorable Mention – 2 points.

Rules for Photojournalism Story Contest

1. The intent of the Photojournalism Story Contest is (to present a quality image with a caption which explains the subject of the image in the Photojournalism tradition). **NOTE: The subject of the images can tell one story with a caption for each or individual subjects for each image with a caption for each.**
2. An annual Photojournalism Story Contest winners will be announced at the N4C Fall National Convention. Five images, digital with up to 30 words per image for a caption and no music allowed.
3. **The deadline for the Photojournalism Contest is August 15th and are to be emailed to Carl Hardy @ torchenterprises72@gmail.com.**
4. Images are subject to the same constraints as digital images and marked as such; ex. 01. (Sequence), Entrants Club Number, PS, Name of Image.jpg.
5. Captions should be submitted in Microsoft Word or as a .pdf file with the (Sequence #) and Title of the Entry for each image.

6. Only minimal digital editing is allowed. In the interest of credibility, photographs that misrepresent the truth, such as manipulation to alter the subject matter, or situations set up for the purpose of photography, are unacceptable. No elements may be moved, cloned, added, deleted, rearranged, or combined. 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 may be added or applied.
7. Photojournalism Story Contest will be scored in these two categories: 1) Caption, how well does the captions describe the action in the image, between two (2) and (5) points. 2) Image, the quality of the image: Technique, Composition, Interest (the same as Digital Images) with one score between two (2) and five (5) points for each (Technique, Composition, Interest). The total score for each submitted photograph will range from eight (8) to 20) points.

Rules for Video Story Contest

1. A video story is a series of projectable video clips accompanied by music and/or a narrative which tell an integrated story presented in a pleasing and understandable manner. The story or event should be recorded with a moving camera or the Movie-function setting of your SLR camera. Your movie should be filmed at a high-quality frame rate.
2. **The deadline for receipt of entries by the contest chair is August 15th, with judging conducted in August.** Members may submit one entry per year with a maximum number of member entries per club of 8, as in other digital contests (see #10 for point accrual.) In addition, a club may also submit one club entry in which one or more members may work collaboratively on an essay. Customarily, the club president or other club officer submits a club entry.
3. The minimum frame rate shall be 24 (24) frames per second (fps), with no maximum fps. The program time shall not exceed six (6) minutes.
4. **Hint: The majority of winning slide essay entries in the past few years have been between 4-5 minutes.** Still images can be used occasionally for titles, segways, time lapse, stop action, credits or other story - telling effects. All standard video effects can be used. The video project must be the work of the entrant(s), with no commercial clips allowed. The video essay should contain the source of the soundtrack but must not identify the maker or club entering the contest.
5. Standard N4C naming will be used with the video essay contest – with the file name used for the .mp4 entry submitted. A USB memory stick or DVD may be used to send an entry by mail to the contest chair Carl Hardy@ 3236 Maplewood Street Sioux City, Iowa 51104. Must include file name, entrant's name for entering the contest, e- mail communication with the maker's name, e-mail address, and telephone number, if technical assistance is desired. The video essay chair will confirm receipt of the video essay via e-mail.

**NORTH CENTRAL CAMERA CLUB COUNCIL
N4C DUES NOTICE**

August 1, 2024 - 2025

Dear Member Club:

Please notice new Dues rate!

According to the N4C bylaws in the Handbook and Directory, all club membership dues are **DUE SEPTEMBER 1**. Dues are figured at the **NEW rate of \$2.00 per club member**, with **no minimum or maximum per club**.

The number of members for calculating dues will be based on the club membership as of the previous May (2024). New clubs will calculate their current membership.

Dues shall run from one calendar year, **renewal date being the first of September** each year.

YOUR MEMBERSHIP AS OF LAST MAY: _____ **MEMBERS**

X \$2.00 each = TOTAL \$ _____

CLUB NAME: _____ Check # _____

Person sending payment: _____

Address _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Please remit this amount to the N4C Treasurer, Lynda Richards, 4236 228th Ave., Hartford, IA 50118-8019. **Keep top half of this copy for your records.**

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Below is an article PHOTOJOURNALISM THROUGH STREET PHOTOGRAPY

By Carl Hardy

This article will give you another perspective into the Program # 2 on Saturday Afternoon, October 5th titled: What is Photojournalism and Why is it Different Than Other Types of Photography presented by Tim Hynds, the Visual Editor at the Sioux City Journal.

PHOTOJOURNALISM THROUGH STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

by Carl Hardy

“The use of principles of Street Photography is essential in Photojournalism--The telling of the story through the visual medium to tie with the written word,” expresses **Carl Hardy** when speaking of Photojournalism.

Street Photography –As Photojournalism

“Street Photography can be photojournalism as long as it conveys a message of life, the moods, smells, and color of the event or happening it is trying to report.”

“Street Photography can be an image with strangers photographed as long as the image has a message that is felt by the photographer.”

“Although the image can usually be stronger if the photographer is able to learn more about the stranger.” **Quotes from Carl Hardy**



This photo was taken by Micheal Greiner. It could have been used for a human interest story.



I was granted permission to take this photograph and I interviewed the man playing the harp. The story behind this photo is the man was playing to gain funds to send his daughter to college. It would have been used for a newspaper human interest story. **Carl Hardy, journalist.**

In order to obtain a good **photojournalism** photograph there are “must have” features as a photographer but also as an editor:

Visual Impact

Content/story (especially important)

Composition;

Energy/Tension

Author Strength

Photojournalism–

“Must have” Features--**VISUAL IMPACT**

VISUAL IMPACT

Without visual impact the **Photojournalism image** will be forgot soon. It must have snap. Make sure you have your camera set to obtain the best quality, focus, and be creative and tell the story. Due to the nature of **Photojournalism** there is no time to use any advancement software.

Photojournalism—CONTENT/STORY

CONTENT/STORY

The **Photojournalism picture** must have a main focus on the street in finding the story and be able to properly document it. **Street Photography can be used as story telling medium for journalism media coverage.**

Photojournalism—COMPOSITION

COMPOSITION

While composition is somewhat harder to achieve than in other genres since it can many times be a spur of the moment shot it can be achieved by taking a look at the situation beforehand and moving to the most advantageous angle or area. This is particularly important in Photojournalism photos. You want to get as close to the action to be used in a media story.



ENERGY/TENSION

Energy and tension is fundamental in public places depending upon the situation presented by the scene. **Street photography is part of the Photojournalism's genre.**

"To be a good street photographers it requires good composition; his storytelling skill and the know how about, recognizing that decisive moment and capturing the energy to be showed in the still image. Otherwise, we will have a weak (dead) picture," stated Alex Coghe, the author of the book *The Street Photographer Guide*.

PHOTOJOURNALIST STRENGTH IN HIMSELF

This is the choice made by the photographer to compose the image. The photographer chooses a courageous decision to compose the image showing something different and make the shot personal.

It is essential that the photographer has a wide knowledge of life and as many experiences as possible. **Photographers who have lived a full life many times are the best Photojournalists.**

Watching for the right moment to take that shot to tell the story is essential.



SKILLS REQUIRED

"Street Photography requires skills of knowledge, historical and aesthetics and an eye for the unseen and seen. The eye is a gift. And not everyone has that gift", as seen by Carl Hardy.

I feel the best Photographers have that gift and can add Street Photography **to their experiences and incorporate these skills into telling a story through Photojournalism to tie with the written story.**



**North Central
Camera Club
Council**



The N4C Bulletin is the official publication of the North Central Camera Club Council which serves camera clubs in Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin.

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“Where Names Become Faces and Faces Become Friends”