



May 4th – 6th N4C MINI SPRING CONVENTION

I hope everyone is planning to attend a great weekend in *Panora, IA* on the first weekend of May 2018. It's a great weekend to spend with fellow photo enthusiasts.

Where else can you spend a weekend for \$113, that includes food, lodging and lots of great information and fun???? These are some photos of St. Thomas Moore Center



Great Food, Fun and Photo Time!!

I have some great things planned.



Night and Astrophotography on Friday night with Willard Sharp. (See Feb. newsletter) Saturday Night, Jerry Bonsack has some great new toys to play with for light painting.

Check out some of his y-tube videos: <https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=light+painting+-+Gerry+Bonsack&&view=detail&mid=97D608C9A90261E0C24C97D608C9A90261E0C24C&&FORM=VDRVRV>, Jerry has been working on these since 2017 mini spring convention. If the weather doesn't cooperate we can actually do these inside the building. So Plan on fun with the camera!

Saturday: We have two great speakers on judging: John Larson and Dwight Tomes. Both have great learning tools, making it easier to understand judging. Sometimes I think we take too long in judging, when we are not sure of ourselves or we get over picky on the critiquing.

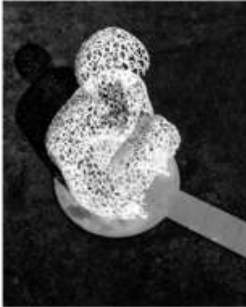


Paul Grillo has a presentation:
“Thinking and Presenting Your Photography Artistically”



Ty Smeades will bring us some great photos of the ***“The Great Outdoors”***. (See Feb. Newsletter)

"It Only Takes A Moment", is an essay on developing a personal artistic style. Jerry Ranch will present a technical and artistic retrospective on his approach to landscape photography, with emphasis on his recent experience at the Grand Canyon and Death Valley, Saturday evening.



Saturday afternoon -Drones with Ken DuPu. Ken has some great photos to show and all kinds of information about his drone.

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As you see we have all kinds of things to see and learn about. If you come early or plan to stay later in the area we have great things to see around the area too. Great photo ops. The Guthrie County Historical Village is located on a beautiful 4-acre complex on the southwest side of [Panora](#), Iowa, just a few blocks away from the scenic [Middle Racoon River](#), historic [Lenon Mill Park](#), and the [Raccoon River Valley Trail](#). The Village features twelve buildings, a Milwaukee caboose, numerous exhibits, and thousands of artifacts that explore the history of [Guthrie County](#) from 1850 to the early-20th Century.



There is plenty of camping in the area too. You all know the Springbrook area, then there is the Lennon Mill Camping area located near the old mill. No mill, but the sound of waterfalls would be a great way to fall asleep. Nations Bridge Park is located south of Panora located next to the river. Great walking trails and if you love to see plenty of spring wildflowers this is the place. There are lots of great things to see. The Panora Area is one of those great places to take photos, you just have to seek them out. If you're interested in some of these let me know and I would be glad to give you more information since I am from this area. The Historical Village is one of my favorite places.

I hope this has given you some interest in attending the 2018 N4C Spring Mini Convention. All kinds of things to do and learn. Especially visiting with all of our N4C friends we haven't seen for quite awhile. Its time to get out and have some fun this spring. Winter is over in just a short time. As it is snowing and blowing plan for a great time in Panora, Iowa at the St. Thomas Moore Center. Fill out your registration NOW!!
Debbie Bates, coordinator, you can reach me at flowerslave@hotmail.com.

**Mark your calendars for the 1st weekend of May,
May 4, 5 & 6, 2018 N4C Mini Spring Convention at Saint Thomas More Center in Panora, Iowa.**

Everyone always used to say Spring brook, and understood what we were talking about. With the close of Spring brook we have changed the name to N4C Mini Spring Convention or just spring convention for short. Be thinking about a great photo weekend that you can get the best food, great dorm facilities, time with others who have the same enthusiasm as you do about sharing and learning more about photography for little as \$113 for the whole weekend.

Willard Sharp: Friday evening

On Friday night we have some great information and entertainment planned. Willard Sharp, from Madrid, Iowa is a storm chaser and an awesome astrophotographer who loves to show everyone how easy it is to get out and shoot. Milky Way has just started coming out and Willard shoots all year long. We will hear his presentation then we can hopefully get out and shoot some star trails before the moon comes out around 10:30.



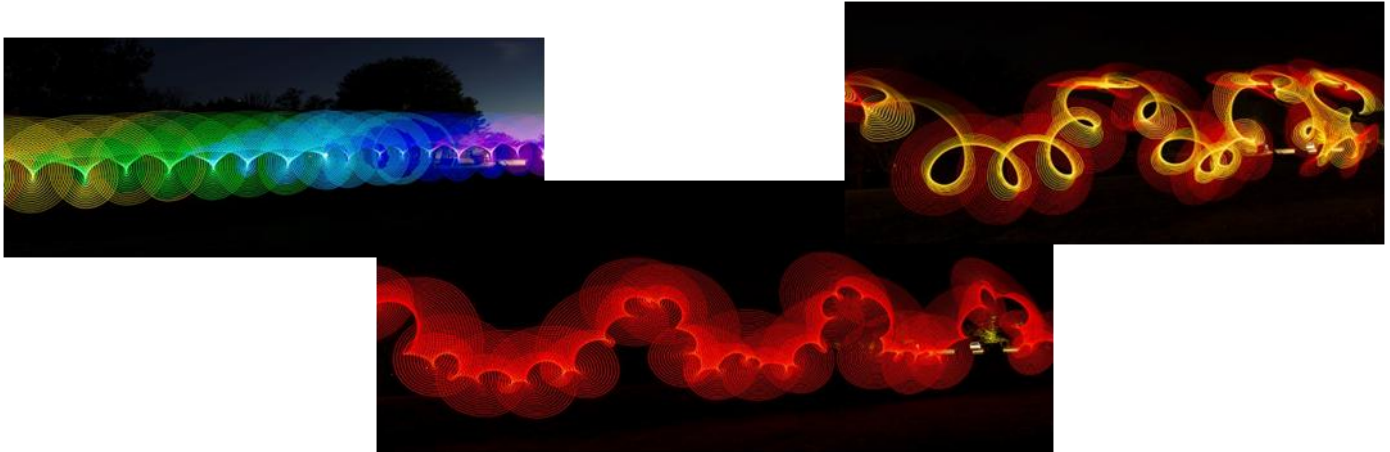
Ty Smedes: Saturday Morning

As an icon of the north-country, the Loon has created magic for all who have enjoyed his antics and that magical *"call of the wild"*. Join Urbandale Iowa writer/photographer Ty Smedes as he lectures about the life history of the Loon, and shares many stunning images. Ty has made many trips to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of northern Minnesota, where he has captured iconic images of a female loon, on the nest, with youngsters riding on her back, and even the male feeding the young, as they rest there. Ty will share many anecdotes and will show how a nature photographer pre-visualizes and plans a wilderness photography trip. Join us for an exciting and educational presentation!



Gerry Bonsack: Saturday Evening

I've planned a lot of fun and hopefully great entertainment. As you know, Gerry Bonsack always has some great fun ideas to shoot. He has gone above and beyond with his light painting toys. He has been working since last convention. We will be light painting Saturday night with all of his toys. Old and New. Check out some of his websites he has set up. <https://youtu.be/qsv7cWG-94M> These are from last year.



Check out the agenda we have lots of great participating photography planned and it will be after dark both Friday and Saturday. Great information: Judging information, (Will get you thinking), Drones Photos and more (plan your questions now, Ken will answer all he can and if weather permitting fly, a little.

Jerry Ranch will be the Saturday evening speaker. He has recently returned from a trip to the Grand Canyon and area around. BUT this won't be just a normal trip to the Grand Canyon.

I will have more information in the upcoming months for the N4C Mini Spring Convention and if you come early or stay late great places to shoot around the area too.

Set your calendar now to attend. Registration forms are in this newsletter too. This is a great weekend to enjoy.

See you at the N4C Spring Mini Convention May 4 ,5 & 6, 2018

Dellie Bates

