

APRIL 2024



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Featured
Articles

Letter From the Editor on Field Trips, p. 3

FotoClave and Visions of Photography, p. 4

*FotoClave's Open Subject Digital Image Comp.
Winners, p. 11*

THIS & THAT

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Cover Image
Print of the Month
Devil's Cornfield, Death Valley Nat'l Park (2024)
Dennis Herman
Marin Photo Club

Spring Exhibition at ImageCentral

ImageCentral, formerly PhotoCentral, in the Hayward Area Recreation Department Offices, is reprising its Spring Gallery Exhibition. This exhibition is open to many types of Visual Art - including all photographic mediums and alternative photographic processes! It is a beautiful community event that started in 1986 at the E Street location in Hayward. Over 30 artists will display their unique individualistic photographic and artistic styles. The exhibition begins on April 14, 2024, and runs through June 8, 2024, with a reception on Saturday, April 27, from 2 to 5 PM. Many N4C members are taking part, so please come and enjoy some appetizers and sip wine while viewing incredible art.

Frederick L. Watkins II
 ImageCentral Studio & Gallery Director
 Hayward Area Recreation & Park District
 1099 E Street | Hayward, CA | 94541
 510-881-6721



Sandhill Cranes fly out at dawn from ponds at Staten Island Preserve, Thornton, CA, by Trisha Brown

Send Me Your Travel Photos!

I'd like to use this space to highlight people's travels, such as Trisha Brown's image above taken in Thornton, CA. Send me 2 or 3 of your favorite images from your travels and I'll post them here. Or...if you feel so inclined, you could compose an article about your trip and include several images. You don't need to travel to exotic places to be included. Any venue you've traveled to and photographed is welcome.

Look forward to hearing from you and seeing your images!

IMAGECENTRAL GALLERY

2024 Spring Exhibition

Alice Fritz | Benjamin Ramos | Brian Ertley
 Bruce Finocchio | Beth Zuckerman
 Frances Williams | Gladys Andrade
 Jackson Nichols | Jamison Boyer | John Van Winkle | Jessica Erin Judd | Julianie Piffer | Laura Kenny | Phuong Ertley
 Larry Chan | Lyrica Tyree | Maria Ochoa
 Mark Deweese | Mark Shaw | Marlene Cohen | Nghi Cao-Watkins | Phillip Garbutt | Roger Berry | Steve Chan
 Sunyo Suhaimi | Terry Stough | Tom Hicks
 Winnie Wan | Frederick Watkins

April 18 - June 8, 2024
 Reception: Sat. April 27, 2-5p
 Gallery Hours: Mon 5-9p, Tue/Thu 11a-2p
 Upper Gallery - Mon-Fri 11a-6p
 Other viewing times by appointment.



1099 'E' St., Hayward, CA 94541
 510.881.6721 - imagecentral@haywardrec.org



A Message From Your Editor

By Vicki Stephens

Does your camera club take many field trips? I've been on a few with my club (LVCC), but yesterday was a new experience. Yesterday we drove to City Center Bishop Ranch in San Ramon to experience and photograph the Indian Holi celebration of the beginning of spring. I'd heard about the throwing of colored powders but never experienced it. Even though we didn't throw the colors ourselves, we photographed those who did. Everyone was so excited and happy for this celebration of color, music, dance and friendship, that it wasn't difficult to capture the fun. The crowd was large and



packed in the closed street. I focused on individuals, but sometimes I just shot on a burst to hopefully capture the fun and colors in the crowds. Both produced some great representative images, I thought. There were professional dancers and musicians, but it was more fun watching the crowd and joining in on their happy vibe. As we know, kids love throwing things, and it was no exception at Holi. However, the adults almost seemed more joyous and raucous than the kids, spreading powder all over each other!

This was a great and different kind of field trip! I'd love to hear about some field trips that your clubs have taken and see your images, as well. It's a nice way to share our experiences and give other clubs new ideas and venues to explore and photograph. If you'd like to write about your club experiences and include a few images, I'd love to include them in Foto Fanfare. Send to vjs.1194@gmail.com.

I look forward to hearing from you!



Photos by Vicki Stephens

FotoClave and Visions of Photography

Where do you fit? Where should N4C Stand?

By Douglas G. Stinson



Figure 1. Untitled, 1969 (Floating Tree). Jerry Uelsmann. Silver gelatin print created by blending various negatives while printing in the darkroom

FotoClave 2024 has passed into history. Now, with some distance from the event, what strikes me is how the various speakers presented radically different answers to the question “What is Photography?”

Let’s start with the first keynote speaker, M.H. Rubin. With a title like “The Photograph as Haiku” one might expect a bizarre view of photography. And he certainly presented a unique way to think and talk about composition. It turns out, however, that Rubin is the most “traditional” of the presenters.

Even though Jerry Uelsmann (figure 1) was “like an uncle” to him, Rubin says “Uelsmann was not a photographer”. An artist, yes. But a photographer, no. For Rubin, photography is the ability to

immortalize a unique moment in time. (figure 2) The photograph is an authentic representation of that moment, including its imperfections. In fact, it may be defined *by* those imperfections (figure 3). In a great photograph everything arranges itself within the frame *just so*, what Cartier Bresson called “the decisive moment”. A great photographer recognizes those moments and knows how to capture them. Post processing may use dodging and burning to direct our attention (figure 4), but little else.



Figure 2. Los Angeles, California 2019. M.H. Rubin.



Figure 3. Liberia, circa 1930. Martin Munkácsi. Would you have cropped or cloned out the arm extending into the photo from the left border?



Figure 4. Compare the 1948 print of Moonrise, Hernandez, New Mexico by Ansel Adams on the left to the contact print of the negative on the right. Imagine the darkroom manipulation required to achieve a print that could begin to reproduce the scene that caused Adams to slam on the breaks and jump out to take this photograph. Even so, would anyone deny this photograph captures a moment and is authentic? The first time I saw this contact print was at Jason Bradley’s talk “Visualizing the Photograph: How Ideas & Prints Are More Relevant Than Ever” at FotoClave 2024.

Back when N4C had a Color Slide division, it is probably safe to assume that many of the best entries resulted from a philosophy similar to Rubin's. Even entries in the print divisions had limited manipulation. For people who wanted a different type of creative freedom, new Divisions were formed. The names and the styles they represented changed over time: "Open" 1961-1973, "Contemporary color slides" 1988-1999, "Manipulated Prints" 1989 - 1991, "Contemporary Prints" 1992-1999 and "Creative" starting in 2000.



Figure 5. Ebti. From the series *We didn't part but we will never meet again*.

With the advent of digital imaging, and "development" taking place in the computer rather than the darkroom, the line between the Creative and Pictorial divisions has become blurred.

As Generative Artificial Intelligence becomes ever more prominent, some people suggest we need a new division that allows AI. But as AI gets ever more integrated into our tools, perhaps what we really need is a new "Authentic Photography" division.



Figure 6. *Response to a Photograph of Kudzu, Texas, 2010*. Laura Plageman. The photograph was manipulated to look like waves, representation how kudzu has "washed over" the native environment. Plageman produces "works that oscillate between image and object, photography and sculpture, landscape and still life. While they may appear illusory, the resulting pictures are documents of actual events and are thus as authentic as the original representational images contained within".

In contrast to Rubin's presentation, the work presented by Nicole White, Ebti, Laura Plageman and Adam Thorman during the panel discussion "Voices in Contemporary Photography" is highly manipulated. Ebti photographs interiors, prints them on fabric, and arranges them in installations (figure 5). Plageman photographs the landscape, manipulates the prints into sculptures, then lights and photographs the result. While the antithesis of the authentic moment (Plageman may disagree, see figure 6), they have one thing in common with Rubin: the photographs are deeply personal. With Rubin there is an emotional attachment to the scene in the viewfinder that results in the instinctual release of the shutter. Ebti recovers memories of her childhood

home in Cairo, Egypt. Plageman attempts to put on display her understanding of the story behind the landscape as well as capture her reaction to her own photographs. She was inspired to start this body of work after crumpling a print and throwing it against the floor in frustration.

In “How to Take Your Best Travel Photos Ever”, Scott Kelby is all about “getting the shot”. He provided advice useful to anyone competing in the Travel Division (arrive before dawn, attend the last tour of the day and lag behind). But also suggested hiring a model to spice up your shots (figure 7). The style is like that of a photographer on assignment for Condé Nast.

Taking a step further into the commercial was Thomas Smith’s “Marketing for Photographers: Getting your Photos Seen and Sold”. With an emphasis on stock media licensing (figure 8), this is all about setting your ego aside, focusing on what clients want, and producing volumes of work.

Some people complain that “the rules stifle creativity”. The N4C fact-based “Special Divisions” (Journalism, Nature and Travel) do exclude some styles.



Figure 7. Scott Kelby. “During our travel photography workshop in Rome I arranged a photo shoot for the class in a colorful little alley, with a classic old Vespa and a wonderful (and very patient) model/actress”.



Figure 8. Microsoft Regional Headquarters. Thomas Smith.

But the only real restriction on the “Art” Divisions is that the images “originate as photographs created by the entrant on a light sensitive material or device” (emphasis mine). Not much of a restriction. Every style presented at FotoClave meets that requirement. So, is it the rules, or is it camera club culture that restricts creativity? What is N4C’s role in this?

But as to the question “what is photography?” The answer is “whatever you need it to be”

###

Notable Photographers and Their Images

By Mark Brueckman

No. 42 - April, 2024

Irving Penn - Fashion and Celebrities (Mostly)

"To me personally, photography is a way to overcome mortality." - Irving Penn

I have had the same dentist for 30 years. His office is in the 450 Sutter Building in San Francisco, that great Neo-Mayan Art Deco building designed by architect Timothy L. Pflueger.

I started going to my dentist when I lived in North Beach in the early 90s. After 15 years in North Beach, I moved to Alameda, but have continued to travel back to have him care for my teeth. He is a great dentist and I like the continuity of our relationship; we are aging together. And having a dentist in San Francisco is an opportunity to get into the city at least a few times a year.

I take a Transbay bus from Alameda or Bart from 12th Street Station Oakland. I almost always visit a gallery or a museum after my appointment. After my dental appointment last month, I took the No. 5 RT Fulton bus to the De Young Museum. I saw two exhibitions there: one on the photography of Irving Penn and another on San Francisco high fashion.

Let's take a look at our first image. The image is titled: "Two Miyake Warriors (A), New York,

1998", it was taken by Penn as a fashion shot. If you had to critique this in a club competition, what would you say about it? Take a few minutes and write down your thoughts. Or stand up and pretend you are in front of an audience.

How did you relate to this image?
Was it emotional or intellectual?
Or did you not relate at all?

I am intrigued by the playfulness of this image, it seems like two futuristic motion-challenged robots combatting for dominance. The lack of faces makes it more impactful to me. I know there are humans under the clothes, but they are not the subjects. I found the sneakers a bit disorienting and anachronistic as compared to the outfits.

Perhaps they are there because sneakers became a big fashion accessory in the 1990s.

I have a love/hate relationship to fashion photography. Fashion adverts in magazines and fashion shows occur as very shallow to me. It seems they are selling the beauty of the models; the clothes are just an incidental backdrop. The models confirm a narrow definition of beauty, a conformity that is exclusive and surely objectifying.



Objectify:

1. to treat as an object or cause to have objective reality. *They believe that beauty pageants objectify women.*
2. to give expression to (something, such as an abstract notion, feeling, or ideal) in a form that can be experienced by others. *It is the essence of the fairy tale to objectify differing facets of the child's emotional experience ... —John Updike*
3. Synonyms - symbolize, illustrate, incorporate.

Source: Merriam-Webster

But this robot-like fashion image is different, it is objectifying modernity. I can enjoy the outfits without the distraction of glamorous female or male models. The outfits stand by themselves, they don't need pouty expressions and disingenuous gazes.

Irving Penn was born in New Jersey in 1917. He studied art at the Philadelphia Museum School of Industrial Art (now the University of the Arts) from 1934 to 1938. One of his teachers was Alexey Brodovitch. Brodovitch would teach and influence many of the great American artists and photographers of the 20th century. Eventually, Penn replaced Brodovitch as the art director at Saks Fifth Avenue.

Irving Penn is mostly known as a fashion and portrait photographer. He shot fashion for Vogue for many years. Separately, he took portraits of some of the most famous people of the 20th century. I didn't know much about Penn, but I was lucky enough to arrive in time for a docent tour of his exhibit. Nothing was spontaneous for Penn; he controlled the subject and the environment. In contrast to Richard Avedon, his settings were minimalist and stark. (Avedon also was a student of Brodovitch.)

Penn also explored non-fashion subjects. Here is an image from his photo series of cigarette butts.



I find this image fascinating. These iconic brands dominated the advertising landscape of the 20th century. There is beauty in this image of cigarette butts, a beauty that exposes the real danger behind the false bravado of stuffing a burning cylinder in your mouth to suck smoke into your lungs. Notice how Penn balanced the composition. It is simple, yet powerful.

My mother smoked. As a child, I remember the smell and haze of cigarettes in our small kitchen while she drank her morning coffee after my Dad went to work. Coffee cup in one hand and her cigarette in the other, she sat at our small kitchen table thinking about her life while the smoke swirled off her fingers. I can visualize the bright yellow wallpaper patterned with countrified kitchen implements. My mother started smoking when she was a teenager in Hoboken, New Jersey in the 40s. Smoking was popular back then. It was a rite of passage into adulthood and, for many, an avenue to an early death. She was a polite smoker, she kept her ashtrays clean.

Here is another Penn quote from the exhibit.

"I myself have always stood in awe of the camera. I recognize it for the instrument it is, part Stradivarius, part scalpel." - Irving Penn

I have thought and continue to think about this quote. It makes me realize there is more to photography than just pointing the camera. I was once told by a curator that all photography was exploitative. Perhaps, by its very nature, it is objectifying too. It just depends on who and what you are objectifying and the sentiment it evokes.

Irving Penn died in 2009 in New York City at the age of 92. Here is a link to his foundation, many of these images are in the exhibit – <https://irvingpenn.org/>

The exhibition lasts until July 21. I highly recommend experiencing it.

Disfruta.

Stab from the Past

*An occasional informal history of the Northern California Council of Camera Clubs,
ripped from the pages of Foto Fanfare
Curated by Doug Stinson*

1994

Print had been divided into “Self Made” and “Commercial” subdivisions. Starting in January 1994 “Commercial” was expanded to include any print not made entirely by the maker using “the traditional chemical processes”. This included “any of the new electronic processes now being developed and anything new in the future”. (!!!-DGS) “Open” will be used instead of “Commercial”. Also new in 1994 were awarding Honorable Mentions in the Print Divisions to give makers credit for the time, effort and expense that goes into making a print. An entry does not have to be a winner in a club competition; your club does not even have to

The new editor, Kitty Angel of Diablo CC, added *Club Notes*, *For Sale*, and *Notes from the N4C Council Meeting* to Foto Fanfare.

It was announced that “We will be using new rules for judging in 1994” (There are rules for judging? -DGS)

Club Project Anyone?

Alameda

Exhibit in the Alameda Historical Museum in April. Travelled to Fort Point, Mt. View Cemetery, Watsonville for a Civil War reenactment, San Francisco



have a print competition.

President Bibi Chapman noted “Yet you people show up on the second Monday of every month [for N4C Board meetings] – those from Marin, Contra Costa, and San Francisco Counties driving long distances in dreadful traffic – for what? To do something for someone else. My hat is off to all of you. This sense of doing a thankless job does bond us together.”

Zoo. Exhibit in the First National Bank in September

Diablo

Weekend at the Truckee River in February, a weekend in April at Mono Lake, visited the Financial District and spent the evening of June 23rd at Contra Loma. “Four Corners” in the Fall.

Berkeley

Visited the Walnut Creek Model Railroad exhibit in February, Santa Cruz in March, the Western Railway Museum Audubon Canyon Ranch in April, Festival at the Lake [Merritt], and the Presidio, weekend in the eastern Sierras.

Peninsula Color Slide Club

Went to Volcano to photograph Daffodil Hill.

Palo Alto club

Ran a tour to Tunisia in May.

Marin

Exhibit in the art gallery of the San Francisco Bay Model from July through September. Travelled to the tidepools at the Point Reyes Lifeboat Station, Salt Point State Park, Safari West, mushroom photowalk, Tule Lake, Klamath National Wildlife Refuge, Lava Beds National Monument.

Millbrae

Went to Pinnacles National Monument and the Sears Point Raceway near Novato.

PhotoChrome

Five day trip to Las Vegas, Cedar Breaks and the Dixie National Forest.

Rossmoor

Took a four-day journey to Trinidad Beach in northern California. San Mateo Coast tidepools, Elkhorn Slough, Santa Cruz Boardwalk.

Panorama (Oakland)

Trip to the Oakland Zoo, Chinese settlement of Locke.

Focus (San Carlos)

Trip to Moffat Field in September.

Miscellaneous trips

Highway 49, old towns of Columbia, Sonora, Jamestown, Chinese Camp, Coulterville, Crocket. Montezuma Hills, Birds Landing, Arrowhead Marsh on Swan Way in Oakland.

Editor Kitty Angel notes when attending “an event at another club... not one person... came



up to greet us or introduce themselves. I hope the next time there is a guest at your club each of you will make extra effort to make that person feel welcome.”

On March 5th, Contra Costa hosted a 5-hour seminar by Stacy Geiken on Lighting and Portrait Techniques.

Ellie Webster offered to collect thoughts and suggestions on judges’ performance and to share these with the judges.

N4C discussed separating “Nature” into “Archeology” and “Animals”. (Since when was “archeology” a *nature* subject? What about all the other Nature subjects? – DGS)

FotoClave was November 4-6 at the Holiday Inn in Visalia, hosted by the San Joaquin Valley Council of Camera Clubs.

Open Subject Digital Image Competition Winners

FotoClave 2024

FotoClave's photo contest garnered an amazing 390 entries in an Open Subject Digital Competition. Judges Ian Bornarth, Lenn Cook and Thomas Smith judged all entries and necked down the field to 150. Their second round of judging produced the top 15 images. The last round of judging was done by keynote speakers Scott Kelby and MH Rubin. The top three places are shown right. Honorable Mentions and the People's Choice Award may be viewed on p.12. HM's and People's Choice titles and winners are listed below.

Honorable Mentions: (L to R from top L corner, pg. 12

- *Watch Your Step*, by AllyL2Photo
- *Locked in Try for Food*, by Dan Schlotter
- *Fresh Sushi*, by Steven Shpall
- *Eared Grebes Refueling Time*, by Anar Daswani
- *Hummingbird Landing*, by Dennis Tungate
- *It's gonna be pasta for dinner*, by Stephen Schpall
- *Gotcha! Tern emerges from it's dive with a fish*, by Anar Daswani
- *Peregrine Falcon Lair*, by Robert Adler
- *Staying Just Ahead of the Crashing Surf*, by Dan Simpson
- *Motel Door, Tubbs Firestorm 2017*, by Susan Lord Bovey
- *Sunset, Mist and Snow*, by Jane Postiglione
- *Tree of Birds*, by Keith Cockerham

People's Choice Award

- *Sally Lightfoot Crab*, by Leonard James



Male White-tiled Kite Exchanges a Capture CA Vole...
by Bruce Finocchio - 1st Place



Eared Grebe Chick Catches Aquatic Insect Larva by
Bruce Finocchio — 2nd Place



High and Dry by Henry Lam - 3rd Place



Honorable Mentions



People's Choice Award

March Competition Results

Judge - Len Cook

Pictorial Projected Basic

21 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Sun casting light through the Smokey air of the Walbridge Sonoma County wildland fire 2020.	Robert Dahut	Peninsula
2	The Reflected Dance of the Snowy Egret	Bonnie Marmor	Marin
3	An early morning February 25, 2024 full "Snow Moon" sets behind the snowy Eastern Sierra from Lone Pine, California.	Michael Isola	Peninsula
4	Bee in Flight	Tom Nycz	Villages
5	Handsome Boy	Jim Van Slyke	Berkeley
HM	Bridge Over Petaluma Water	Dan Kabanuck	Santa Rosa
HM	Walden Lighthouse at Dusk	Bob Flesher	Villages
HM	Cold sunrise. Owens River. Eastern Sierra, CA.	may chen	Fremont



Pictorial Projected - 1st Basic

Sun casting light through the Smokey air of the Walbridge Sonoma County wildland fire 2020.

**Robert Dahut
Peninsula Camera Club**

Pictorial Projected Intermediate

27 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Acrobatic dive	Luke Lang	Santa Clara
2	On A Rainy Night	Ben Wang	Peninsula
3	Winter Dunes at Vestrahorn, Iceland	Steve Berkley	Marin
4	Woman Contemplating	Carol Lehrman	Marin
5	Stone, Shutters, Door	Paul Hampton	Alameda
HM	Pink Flamingo resting	Bill Katz	Rossmoor
HM	ROSE TATTOO	Michael Henn	Peninsula
HM	Taking Off	Mark Hullinger	Santa Rosa

Pictorial Projected - 1st Intermediate

**Acrobatic Dive
 Luke Lang
 Santa Clara Camera Club**



Pictorial Projected Advanced

27 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1B	Pissoir in Pink	Bill Johnston	Marin
2	Wings of Light	Stephanie Arnow	Santa Rosa
3	Night falls over Bodie	Paul Kessinger	Fremont
4	Blue Hour Splendor	Betty Hovenden	Livermore
5	Going Places	Cindee Beechwood	Santa Rosa
HM	King of the Maasai Mara	Jennifer Isaac	Marin
HM	Tranquility	Fan Xie	Santa Clara
HM	A Palette of Spring	Stephanie Arnow	Santa Rosa

Best of Division - Pictorial Projected



© Bill Johnston, PhD

Pictorial Projected - 1st Advanced

Pissoir in Pink
Bill Johnston, PhD
Marin Photo Club

Pictorial Projected Masters

27 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Mt Whitney peaking through the clouds at sunrise.	Ernie Murata	Villages
2	5405 Red-eyed Tree Frogs Mating. Red-eyed tree frogs reproduce during rainy season. Males will clasp on to the back of the female in what is known as "amplexus" and fertilize the eggs that she lays.	Leonard James	Rossmoor
3	Sandhill cranes at sunset in Merced, CA	Sree Alavattam	Peninsula
4	Now defunct Grange Hall	Hetta Malone	Rossmoor
5	Puzzle Pieces	Morris Swartz	Berkeley
HM	Bodyscape Study	Louis Cheng	Alameda
HM	Behold! A desert train of hills that stretches farther than the eye can see. Further! To Tectonic Space and Time, that humble mere photography.	Jeff Dunn	Alameda
HM	Tufa in the Early Morning-Mono Lake	Lynn Oakleaf	Diablo



Pictorial Projected - 1st Masters

Mt Whitney peaking through the clouds at sunrise.

Ernie Murata

The Villages Camera Club

Journalism Projected Basic

13 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Powerful winds toppled a utility pole on Blossom Hill road in San Jose, Feb 4th, 2024	Chris Greni	Santa Clara
2	Protesters shout opposition to Xi Jinping and the Chinese Communist Party at an entrance to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Leaders' meeting in San Francisco on November 15, 2023	Kelly Moran	Peninsula
3	A veteran gives a young spectator a flag at the 105th San Jose Veteran's Day Parade, Nov 11th 2023	Chris Greni	Santa Clara
4	Confetti showers the antique Hudson and drivers as it crosses the finish line in first place in the 2006 National Guard Great Race, which covered 2,871 miles from Philadelphia, PA, to San Rafael, CA.	Bruce Burtch	Marin
5	A Youth Sailing class at Coyote Point (in San Mateo) is beginning.	Herb Hwang	Peninsula



Journalism Projected - 1st Basic

**Powerful winds toppled a utility pole on Blossom Hill road in San Jose,
Feb 4th, 2024**

**Chris Greni
Santa Clara Camera Club**

Journalism Projected Intermediate

12 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Massive waves in Pacifica []On 12/29/23, high surf along the California coast, produced waves over 30 feet high that broke over the sea wall in Pacifica disrupting traffic and flooding streets	Elena Torello	Peninsula
2	October 14, 2023 Annular Eclipse [1 of 3] Photographers check their equipment and relevant phone apps waiting for the moon to pass between earth and the sun	Marsha Kirschbaum	Berkeley
3	The Aleutian Storm, a 40' fishing vessel ran aground at night on Salmon Creek beach and was buffeted by the high tide. The crew was able to escape safely.	Holly Wallace	Berkeley
4	P-40 Texas Warhawk and P-51 Little Horse wing to wing approaching the final race pylon. Reno Air Races, Sep 2017	Greg Geren	Sierra
5	opening day 1-18-24 at Pillar point harbor a ship load of crab arrive but the whole cargo is destined for commercial sale and the line is snarled around the propeller keeping the diver busy	Bernhard Votteri	Peninsula
HM	Kalari - Indian Martial Art [1]The word "kalari" comes from Malayalam, an Indian language and means "training ground".	Soubhagya Parija	Contra Costa
HM	Vigil for the Children in Gaza [] A community-led vigil for the children of Gaza, held at the corner of Embarcadero and El Camino Real in Palo Alto. January 28, 2024	Linnet Kwok	Peninsula
HM	Capsized [].The male passenger is being pulled to safety when the sailboat capsized. Shoreline Lake, Mountain View, CA, June 17th, 2023	Luke Lang	Santa Clara



Journalism Projected - 1st Intermediate
Massive Waves in Pacifica
 Elena Torello, MD
 Peninsula Camera Club



Journalism Projected Advanced

25 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Stolen plane crash lands on Popular Beach in Half Moon Bay, CA on 2/8/2024. Citabria Adventure plane was stolen out of Palo Alto Airport by a Florida man who was unhurt and later arrested.	Marie Susa	Peninsula
2	High School Rodeo Contestant Ropes the Calf	Donna Sturla	Sierra
3	Helping an Injured Elephant, Ol Kinyei, Kenya [1] An elephant gets darted with an anesthetic so a team of vets (unseen) can safely approach and assess its injuries	Cindee Beechwood	Santa Rosa
4	A powered paraglider soars near a flock of migrating ducks in the Coachella Valley CA. February 2024	Linda Koski	Villages
5	T6 racer Radial Velocity takes the lead over Midnight Miss II at the Reno Air Races in September 2023	Greg Geren	Fremont
HM	MadHatter [] Some entrants in the annual Mad Hatter Holiday parade in Vallejo, CA follow the Alice in Wonderland theme as with this Cheshire Cat dancing troupe.	Marcy Zimmerman	Diablo
HM	Considered the most dangerous animals in Yellowstone, bison are often approached by careless tourists (called "Tourons" by park rangers). If the provoked animals attack, they have to be euthanized.	Cookie Segelstein	Berkeley
HM	Vaulting Champions [] Vaulting was developed in post war Germany to introduce children to equestrian sports. It is often described as gymnastics on horseback and is still very popular in Europe.	Suzanne Grady	Marin



Journalism Projected - 1st Advanced

**Stolen Plane Crash
Marie Susa
Peninsula Camera Club**



Journalism Projected Masters

30 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1BIM	A CHP Dodge Charger involved in a roll-over crash and fire after losing control while attempting to catch up to a high speed pursuit, early Sunday morning on Highway 24. Orinda CA, February 18, 2024.	Sean McDonough	Rossmoor
2	Two BART cars on an eastbound train traveling between Orinda and Lafayette derailed and caught fire early Monday morning, prompting a massive emergency response. Orinda CA. January 1, 2024	Sean McDonough	Rossmoor
3	Coastside storm of February 2024 {1} Resulting from the extremely high winds, reaching up to 99 mph, a tree falls down narrowly missing a car in the Miramar district of Half Moon Bay, CA.	John Williams	Peninsula
4	The plane involved in a fatal crash at a busy intersection in Concord, CA on 1/30/2024 is loaded onto a trailer for transport after the on scene investigation.	Lynn Oakleaf	Diablo
5	Novato □ open space near homes serves as a recreational and mental health resource for humans	Beth Schriock	Marin
HM	Granite Bay High School Scores in Prep Rugby Match	Doug Arnold	Sierra
HM	President Biden visits San Francisco. After landing on the Marina Green in the Presidential helicopter, the motorcade makes its way through Pacific Heights to meet Nancy Pelosi and Democratic donors	Angela Grove	Marin
HM	Eye on the ball. Wine Country Pickleball Fall Classic. Santa Rosa, CA.	Bill Stacy	Santa Rosa

Image of the Month



Best in Division - Journalism

Journalism Projected - 1st Masters

Crash & Fire of Police Vehicle
 Sean McDonough
 Rossmoor Photography Club

Creative Projected Basic

12 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Hollywood	Tanya Edgar	Berkeley
2	Dreamy Pond	Camillia Brennan	Villages
3	Zebra's at Dusk	Tom Nycz	Villages
4	Musical Lines.	DJ Leland	Marin



Creative Projected - 1st Basic

**Hollywood
Tanya Edgar
Berkeley Camera Club**

© Tanya Edgar

Creative Projected Intermediate

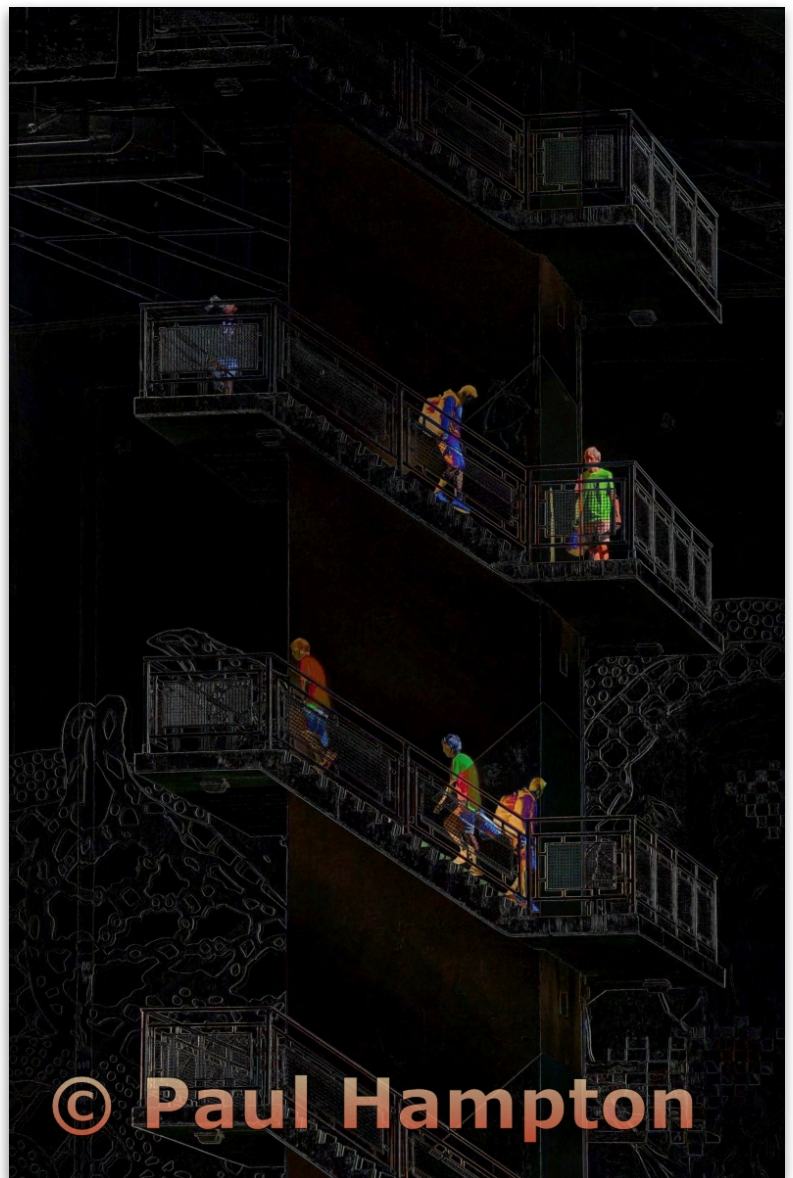
25 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	Stair Walkers	Paul Hampton	Alameda
2	Alien Eggs Hatchery	Steve Berkley	Marin
3	Morning Coffee Break	Julie Wash	Villages
4	Flagmakers, San Francisco	Gordon Haddow	Peninsula
5	Study of stillness in early morning - Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala, India	Soubhagya Parija	Contra Costa
HM	Reflections from a Lake	Mark Hullinger	Santa Rosa
HM	Jaguar XK140	Guy Cummins	Livermore
HM	Lovely Lily	Pamela Lloyd	Marin

Creative Projected - 1st Intermediate

Stair Walkers

Paul Hampton

Alameda Photographic Society



Creative Projected Advanced

29 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1	On the rails.	Peggy Fleming	Contra Costa
2	Magical Morning	Eddy Lehrer	Alameda
3	Now And Then: Peeking into a bygone era that hasn't changed with time.	Larry McCloskey	Marin
4	Autumn in my mind.	Shinnan Kiang	Livermore
5	Nlght Light	Carol Chihara	Berkeley
HM	Another Skewed View	Phillip Hann	Santa Rosa
HM	A Petal Is Falling	Ronnie Rosenbach	Santa Rosa
HM	A Knight at the Museum	Paul Kessinger	Fremont



Creative Projected - 1st Advanced

On the Rails
Peggy Fleming
Contra Costa Camera Club

Creative Projected Masters

28 Images			
Award	Title	Member	Club
1B	Cosmic Flow	Donna Ostheimer	Villages
2	sheepmaster Conducts Race with Boys on Sheep	Joan Field	Contra Costa
3	Liquid Motion	Vadim Mikulinsky	Contra Costa
4	Incoming!	Jennifer Marano	Santa Rosa
5	Cactus Flower Wreath	Ron Shattil	Berkeley
HM	Look Into My Eyes	Melissa Brookmire	Peninsula
HM	Spoon and fork in flight.	Bill Stacy	Santa Rosa
HM	Sunset Antarctic Fantasy	Michael Jablon	Villages

Best of Division Creative Projected



Nature Projected - 1st Masters

Cosmic Flow
Donna Ostheimer
The Villages Camera Club

Color Prints Basic

Judge - Chris Cassell



Color Prints - 1st Basic

**Ground fog rising before the storm. Yellow Creek, Humbug Valley, Plumas NF
Randall Smith
Marin Photo Club**

© Randall Smith

Color Prints - 2nd Basic

**Sherbert Sunrise
Brennan Wenck-reilly
Marin Photo Club**



© Brennan
Wenck-reilly

Color Prints Intermediate



Best in Division Color Prints

Color Prints - 1st Intermediate

Reflection Ice Cave in
Southern Iceland
Steve Berkley
Marin Photo Club



Color Prints - 2nd Intermediate

Shadow & Light
Fran Mueller
Marin Photo Club

Color Prints Advanced



Color Prints - 1st Advanced
Fall Morning Reflection
Betty Hovenden
Livermore Valley Camera Club



Color Prints - 2nd Advanced
Golden Barrel Cactus, Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Arizona
Dennis Herman
Marin Photo Club



Color Prints - 3rd Advanced
Down the rabbit hole
Henry Lam
Contra Costa Camera Club

Color Prints Masters



Color Prints - 1st Masters

Reflections of Chicago
George Ziser
Contra Costa Camera Club



Color Prints - 2nd Masters

Sunrise viewed through an old church door
John Templeton
Contra Costa Camera Club



Color Prints - 3rd Masters

Goat Herder in Tavira, Portugal
Eric Ahrendt, N4CA
Contra Costa Camera Club



Color Prints - 4th Masters

Half Dome Reflections
Barbara Mallon
Livermore Valley Camera Club

Monochrome Prints Basic



Monochrome Prints - 1st Basic

Maiko (Geisha in training)

Elena Torello, MD

Peninsula Camera Club

© Elena Torello, Ms.

Monochrome Prints - 2nd Basic

The Giant Birdie

Bonnie Marmor

Marin Camera Club



© Bonnie Marmor



© Patricia Cockerham

Monochrome Prints - 3rd Basic

Never-ending Ocean Pulse

Patricia Cockerham

Marin Camera Club

Monochrome Prints Intermediate



Monochrome Prints - 1st Intermediate

Stack of Turtles
Vicki Stephens
Livermore Valley Camera Club

Monochrome Prints - 2nd Intermediate

Black Church at Budir, Iceland
Steve Berkley
Marin Photo Club



Monochrome Prints - 3rd Intermediate

Rain drops wear sun glasses
Bernhard Votteri, Dr.
Peninsula Camera Club



Monochrome Prints Advanced



Print of the Month

Best in Division Monochrome Prints

Monochrome Prints - 1st Advanced

Devil's Cornfield, Death Valley
Nat'l Park (2024)

Dennis Herman
Marin Photo Club

Monochrome Prints - 2nd Advanced

Chinese Gateway to Heaven

Herb Hwang

Peninsula Camera Club



Monochrome Prints - 3rd Advanced

“Reflective Moment in Jessie
Square” San Francisco

Bob Shonkoff

Contra Costa Camera Club



Monochrome Prints -
4th Advanced

A dedicated park
attendant working
in the rain. Kyoto,
Japan

Phil Meginness
Livermore Valley
Camera Club

Monochrome Prints Masters



**Monochrome Prints - 1st
Masters**

**Gabriel Playing His
Trumpet in People's
Park, Berkeley
Eric Ahrendt, N4CA
Contra Costa Camera
Club**

Monochrome Prints - 2nd Masters

**Lone Tree, Hayden Valley,
Yellowstone NP
Lynn Oakleaf, Fellow
Diablo Valley Camera Club**



Monochrome Prints Masters

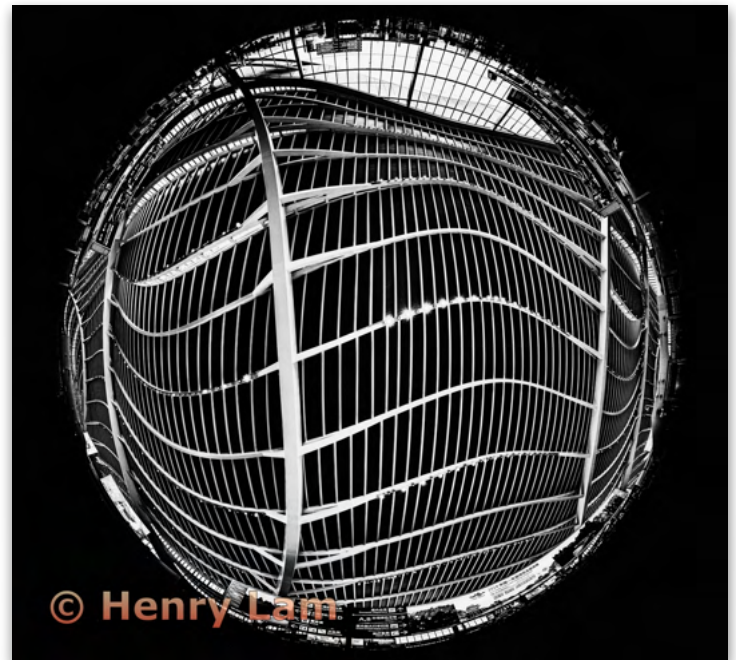


Monochrome Prints - 3rd Masters

The Wave Curl
TJ Campbell
Marin Photo Club

Monochrome Prints - 4th Masters

Contorted ladders
Henry Lam
Contra Costa Camera Club



Monochrome Prints - 5th Masters

Shoulder Season
Alex Valcohen
Diablo Valley Camera Club

Journalism Prints Basic



Best in Division Journalism Prints

Journalism Prints - 1st Basic

A Mexican Theme Troupe celebrates at the San Francisco Carnaval, May 2018. It is the West Coast's largest multicultural festival bring together Latino, Caribbean and African Diasporic traditions.

**Gordon Haddow
Peninsula Camera Club**

Journalism Prints - 2nd Basic

A cowboy competes in the Saddle Bronco Riding competition at the 2023 Russian River Rodeo. He must control the animal without touching it with his free hand or removing either foot from its stirrup.

**Patricia Cockerham
Marin Photo Club**



Journalism Prints - 3rd Basic

The wreck of the Pt. Reyes, an iconic Inverness tourist attraction, will soon be demolished, a victim of time and vandalism, as shown in photos from 2024, 2007, 2014 and 2020 (clockwise from left).

**Dennis Herman
Marin Photo Club**



Journalism Prints Advanced



Travel Prints - 1st Advanced

In the Falkland Islands gravel roads and high winds often lead to single car accidents like this one. The driver was being evacuated by helicopter to the local hospital, condition unknown. 11/17/23

**Jon d'Alessio
Marin Photo Club**

Travel Prints - 2nd Advanced

At the Scottish Games in Pleasanton, on September 2, 2023, Megan McKenna's face shows the strain as she prepares to hurl the 16lb hammer. On this throw, Megan set a new world record of 101ft.

**Bruce Lescher
Livermore Valley Camera Club**



Journalism Prints Advanced



Journalism Prints - 3rd Advanced

2019 World Dog Surfing Championships Spirit of Surfing Award Winner Faith. Spirit of Surfing is one of three special achievement awards, rewarding performance in the competition, as well in the sport overall
Jeff Klagenberg
Peninsula Camera Club

Journalism Prints - 4th Advanced

A Docent at Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Portola Valley, CA, photographs an ant colony . Photo helps with accurate documentation of activities, species- especially if mixed species.
Sonny Mencher
Peninsula Camera Club



Journalism Prints - 5th Advanced

This month marks two years when the Russian-speaking Student Association of Stanford University held a mass protest against Russia's invasion, at the Ferry Terminal Building in San Francisco.
Bob Shonkoff
Contra Costa Camera Club



Alternate Subject - Abandoned Basic



Abandoned Prints - 1st Basic

**Abandoned Grain Silo, Silo City,
Buffalo, New York
Gordon Haddow
Peninsula Camera Club**

© Gordon Haddow

Abandoned Prints - 2nd Basic

**Trying to hold it together till the
owners return..
Debbie Bergvall
Contra Costa Camera Club**



© Debbie Bergvall

**Abandoned Prints - 3rd
Advanced**

**The haunting beauty of
color found at the
abandoned Fort McDowell
Hospital on Angel Island.
Suzanne Grady**



© Suzanne Grady

**Abandoned Prints - 4th
Advanced**

**Abandoned Gas Pump at
China Camp
Bruce William Burtch
Marin Photo Club**



© Bruce William Burtch

Alternate Subject - Abandoned Advanced



Abandoned Prints - 1st Advanced

**Interior of building in
Kolmanskop, a ghost town in
southern Namibia
Jon d'Alessio
Marin Photo Club**

Abandoned Prints - 2nd Advanced

**Last Supper (Bodie, CA)
Steve Kessler
Peninsula Camera Club**



© Steve Kessler

Abandoned Prints - 3rd Advanced

**Seen Better Days!
Dorothy Weaver
Marin Photo Club**



© Dorothy Weaver

Alternate Subject - Abandoned Advanced



Abandoned Prints - 4th Advanced

Abandoned in Bodie
Herb Hwang
Peninsula Camera Club

Abandoned Prints - 5th Advanced

And Go Away
Eric Ahrendt, N4CA
Contra Costa Camera Club



Abandoned Prints - HM Advanced

A Former High Prairie Home
Dale Hasselfeld
Rossmoor Photography Club



Judge's Comments

By Chris Cassell

Abandoned- Interior of building in Kolmanskop, a ghost town in southern Namibia

Besides fitting the theme superbly, the image is very strong in composition, texture, and the subtle play of colors. I love the way the image is divided simply into the natural encroaching sands below-right, and the decrepit manmade structure above-left.

Journalism- A Mexican Theme Troupe celebrates at the San Francisco Carnaval, May 2018. It is the West Coast's largest multicultural festival bring together Latino, Caribbean and African Diasporic traditions.

Good match of journalism title to the image. The colorful, but similarly-dressed, sea of people could have left us without a focal point. But here you've used that sea of people to surround the young woman, very differently dressed in Day of the Dead garb. That helps bring out her dynamic qualities.

Monochrome- Devil's Cornfield, Death Valley Nat'l Park (2024)

Wonderful range of tones and textures as a monochrome image. The dead vegetation is well placed in the foreground; neither too widely nor too tightly spaced in the sand. The lighting gives a good three-dimensional feel to the vegetation, which counterpoints well with the dramatic clouds. Also appreciate the timing and/or stance that separated the clouds and vegetation at the center.

Pictorial-- Reflection Ice Cave in southern Iceland

Dynamic and enjoyable viewed at any distance; quite abstract from a distance but with an intimate sense of place when viewed closely. The strong composition helps us better appreciate the subtle range of tones and textures. Lack of an overmat was a negative, but was compensated for by the strength of the image.

Guide to N4C Resources

What are you looking for?	Here's where to find it:
Definitions of the N4C Competition Divisions	N4C.org . Then hover over <i>Competitions</i> and click on <i>Competition Rules for (current year)</i> . In the PDF document, scroll down to Part 2, <i>Section 2.1 Division Definitions</i> .
What is allowed in each Competition Division?	N4C.org . Then hover over <i>Competitions</i> and click on <i>Competition Rules for (current year)</i> . In the PDF document, scroll down to Part 2, <i>Section 2.3 General Rules-Competition</i> . The table shows what is allowed in each competition.
Information on the Portfolio Competition	N4C.org . Then hover over <i>Competitions</i> and click on <i>Portfolio Competition Rules</i> . www.youtube.com/@northerncaliforniacameraclubs . Click on <i>Playlists</i> and select <i>Portfolio Competition</i> .
Contact information for, and location of, N4C Member clubs	N4C.org . Then click on <i>Camera Clubs</i> .
Learn more about photography	N4C.org . Then click on <i>Resources</i> . N4C.PhotoClubServices.com . Then hover over Organization and click on <i>Documents and Files to Download</i> . Scroll down to <i>Section B.0 Photography Training – Not specific to N4C Competitions</i> . www.youtube.com/@northerncaliforniacameraclubs . Click on <i>Playlists</i> and select <i>tutorials</i> .
Documents clarifying what some of the N4C Competition definitions and rules mean	N4C.PhotoClubServices.com . Then hover over Organization and click on <i>Documents and Files to Download</i> . Scroll down to <i>Section 4.0 Interclub Competition and Judging</i> . Click on the little triangle to see the sub-categories. Click on <i>Section 4.8 Commentary and Clarifications of Competition Rules and Division Definitions</i> . These documents have been approved by the N4C Board but <u>do not</u> override the official rules and definitions.
How to get more out of N4C Competitions	N4C.PhotoClubServices.com . Then hover over Organization and click on <i>Documents and Files to Download</i> . Scroll down to <i>Section 4.0 Interclub Competition and Judging</i> . Click on the little triangle to see the sub-categories. Click on <i>Section 4.G Instructional Material for Club Members</i> .
Duties and Responsibilities of an N4C Board member	N4C.PhotoClubServices.com . Then hover over Organization and click on <i>Documents and Files to Download</i> . Scroll down to <i>Section 2.0 Board Operation</i> . Click on the little triangle to see the sub-categories. Click on <i>section 2.4 Job Duties & Timelines, "How to" Procedures</i> .
See the winning images from N4C Competitions	N4C.PhotoClubServices.com . Then click on <i>Competitions</i> , then click on <i>Competition Results</i> .
Information on San Francisco Bay Area exhibitions, talks, artist receptions, residencies, job openings and workshops related to photography.	BayAreaPhotoScene.com . Listings are limited to events that are free or are sponsored by non-profit/educational organizations.
Recordings of N4C-sponsored webinars	www.youtube.com/@northerncaliforniacameraclubs . Click on <i>Playlists</i> and select <i>Webinars</i> .
Using the PhotoClubServices Website	www.youtube.com/@northerncaliforniacameraclubs . Click on <i>Playlists</i> and select <i>tutorials</i> . N4C.PhotoClubServices.com . Then hover over Organization and click on <i>Documents and Files to Download</i> . Scroll down to <i>Section 4.0 Interclub Competition and Judging</i> . Click on the little triangle to see the sub-categories. Click on <i>Section 4.H Remote Competitions and Judging</i> .
N4C Instagram	www.instagram.com/northerncouncilofcameraclubs/

Northern California Council of Camera Clubs



N4C

<http://www.n4c.org>

<http://n4c.photoclubservices.com>

PSA

<http://www.psa-photo.org>

Yerba Buena Chapter of PSA

<https://yerbabuenapsa.slickpic.site/>

N4C Camera Clubs		
AL	Alameda Photographic Society	https://alameda.photoclubservices.com/default.aspx
BK	Berkeley Camera Club	http://www.berkeleycameraclub.org/
CC	Contra Costa Camera Club	http://contracostacameraclub.org
CT	Chinatown Photographic Society	http://chinatownphoto.org/wordpress/en/
DV	Diablo Valley Camera Club	https://diablovalley.photoclubservices.com
FR	Fremont Photographic Society	http://fremont.photoclubservices.com/
LV	Livermore Valley Camera Club	http://livermorevalleycameraclub.com
MR	Marin Photography Club	http://www.marinphotoclub.com/
PE	Peninsula Camera Club	http://www.peninsulacameraclub.com/
RO	Rossmoor Photography Club	http://rossmoorcameraclub.photoclubservices.com/
SC	Santa Clara Camera Club	http://www.sccc-photo.org
SR	Santa Rosa Photographic Society	http://www.santarosaphotographicsociety.org/
VC	Villages Camera Club	https://villages.photoclubservices.com
SI	Sierra Camera Club	https://sierracameraclubsac.com
GS	Los Gatos-Saratoga Camera Club	https://www.losgatos-saratogacameraclub.org

N4C Officers & Committee Chairs

President	Jennifer O'Donnell	Peninsula	jennifer@everythingcomputers.com
Vice President	Gary Oehrle	Livermore	goehrle@comcast.net
Treasurer	Michael Freidrich	Livermore	mffredrich@comcast.net
Secretary	Trisha Brown	Santa Rosa	jazrcisr@outlook.com
PI Chair	Keith Cockerham	Marin	kcockerham@comcast.net
Print Chair	Gary Oehrle	Livermore	goehrle@comcast.net
Judges Chair	Charles Ginsburgh	Alameda	cginsburgh@gmail.com
PSA Representative	Bruce Finocchio	Peninsula	bruce@dreamcatcherimages.net
Special Programs Chair	Vicki Stephens Jennifer O'Donnell	Livermore Peninsula	vjs.1194@gmail.com jennifer@everythingcomputers.com
Foto FanFare Editor	Vicki Stephens	Livermore	vjs.1194@gmail.com
Webmaster	Sam Berzin	Peninsula	sb@berzin.net

N4C Mission Statement



To promote a spirit of voluntary cooperation among the camera clubs of Northern California. To sustain and increase an interest in the science and art of photography among photographers of said area. To promote social and educational programs for the benefit of member clubs. To create and maintain a representative body which will serve the best interests of all member clubs and groups and attempt to provide workable solutions to their individual and collective problems. To provide services and facilities for the use and benefit of the member clubs.

N4C is a proud member of



N4C is a member of the **Photographic Society of America (PSA)** and its local chapter, **Yerba Buena**. The Photographic Society of America is a worldwide organization for anyone interested in photography. The society includes casual shutterbugs, serious amateurs, and professional photographers.

N4C 2024 Competition Schedule												
	Month	Print Judging	Print				Projected					
1	Jan	Livermore	P	M	J	C	Alt Div 1	P	J	C		1
2	Feb	Rossmoor	P	M	N	T	Alt Div 2	P	N	T	M	2
3	Mar	Contra Costa	P	M		J	Alt Div 3	P	J	C		3
4	Apr	Diablo Valley	P	M	J	C	Alt Div 4	P	N	T	M	4
5	May	Marin	P	M	N	T	Alt Div 5	P	J	C		5
6	Jun	Contra Costa	P	M	T	C	Alt Div 6	P	N	T	M	6
7	Jul	Marin	P	M	N		S	P	J	C	N	7
8	Aug	Rossmoor	P	M	J	C	Alt Div 7	P	N	T		8
9	Sep	Peninsula	P	M	N	T	Alt Div 8	P	J	C	M	9
10	Oct	Livermore	P	M	J	C	Alt Div 9	P	N	T	M	10
11	Nov	Peninsula	P	M	N	T	Alt Div 10	P	J	C	T	Portfolio
12	Dec											

Note: See N4C.org under Competitions for N4C Interclub Competition Rules for the Alternate Print Divisions

N4C Board Calendar

Board Meetings

April 8 12 at 7:30 pm (Hybrid Mtg.)

May 13 at 7:30 pm (Hybrid Mtg.)

Competition Judging Schedule

On/around the 3rd Saturday of each month

PI judging location - contact Keith Cockerham

kcockerham@comcast.net

Print judging location - contact Gary Oehrle

goehrle@comcast.net

Helpful Websites

N4C.org

Winning photos for the month:

<https://n4c.photoclubservices.com/>

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=northern+california+council+of+camera+clubs

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=northern+california+council+of+camera+clubs

<https://bayareaphotoscene.com/>

Instagram: [instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com/northerncacouncilofcameraclubs)

N4C page is titled

[northerncacouncilofcameraclubs](https://www.instagram.com/northerncacouncilofcameraclubs)

<https://www.tripstodiscover.com/hidden-gems-in-san-francisco/>

PSA - <https://psa-photo.org/>