

## SCCC Board of Directors Meeting – August 15, 2018 – Revised 9/5/18

A SCCC Board of Directors Meeting was held August 15, 2018 at 6:00 PM in the home of Club President, Tom Schoening. Those in attendance were President, Tom Schoening, Vice President, Jerry Mennenga, Secretary/Treasurer, Doug Conrad, Director at Large, Mike Greiner, past President, Kevin Smith, and past Secretary/Treasurer, Rich Wright.

The purpose of the meeting was to talk about ideas to revitalize the club, to increase participation in judging entries and assisting judge chairs, as well as other ideas going forward to discuss with the membership and get input.

Rich passed out copies of last year's survey results and Mike Greiner started out by saying that a lot of suggestions previously made were never implemented because there just wasn't enough time for everything at club meetings. One suggestion that was implemented on a couple of occasions was that of round table discussions and demonstrations. A dialog then continued on round table discussions. An issue noted with having round table discussions was that it was difficult for members to participate in more than one table discussion or demonstration but everyone agreed, however, that they should continue.

Doug Conrad asked Tom if he had an agenda. Tom noted that he had and noted the first item was to review Officers duties. There was a brief discussion on Officers duties and then Rich pointed out that they were outlined in the Club's By-Laws.

The next item of discussion was the Treasurers Report. Rich Wright passed out copies of his treasurers report and reported that the club spent approximately \$148.00 more than what was collected. The biggest reason for the deficit was that the club's Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center Exhibit is in September this year and was not in January as in the past years. Because of that we didn't received the \$300.00 that we have typically received in the past for exhibiting. It was also noted that there is approximately \$3,800 in savings. Rich then informed the board that his duties have been passed on to incoming Secretary/Treasurer, Doug Conrad. They met with a representative of Liberty Bank before the meeting and completed the paperwork and signature cards for the transfer of duties.

The next discussion was about paying mileage for out of town guest speakers. After the discussion everyone was in favor of reimbursing out of town guest speakers for travel expenses at the rate of \$.45/mile.

The board got into a discussion regarding the conflicting date of our first meeting and the N4C Convention. Because this happens on a regular basis and most of the club's officers usually attend the N4C Convention, few if any officers are left to conduct the first meeting of the season. Plus other members also attend the Convention which creates low attendance at the first meeting. Jerry Mennenga suggested that instead of having a meeting on that second Thursday in September, perhaps the club should have an outing somewhere for a photo shoot.

The next topic was how to get more membership involvement as judges assisting the Judging Chairs? To get more involvement Jerry Mennenga suggested that every member be required to serve as a judge when called upon in the fall and spring. He proposed that every members name should go into a pool so the organizing judge or judge chair would have a pool of judges to pick from. Having a pool of judges would make it easier on the judge chairs and possibly encourage more people to volunteer as a judge

chair. He also stated that if the club continues like that of the VFW or American Legion, where fewer and fewer younger people are getting involved and the membership is aging and dying, then the question to ask the club should be, do you want the club to continue like it should or do you want it to be just a social thing? That's a hard question to ask, but if the membership wants the club to continue then they need to step up and say yes, I'm available this month and to work it out so if they do get called upon they can't really opt out. The discussion continued with everyone agreeing with what Jerry said and suggested.

The conversation then progressed on to the current digital judging process. In general everyone liked how the digital images were uploaded to the website so the judges could easily access the images and judge them on their own computer and on their time schedule. It's also a convenient way to get judges from outside the club to judge club contests. After much discussion the general consensus was to continue this process of digital judging. It was also suggested that this judging process be brought up at one of the educational programs and walk people through the process as to how it is done.

In other discussion Doug Conrad suggested alternating contests each month as a means to increase member participation, such as color one month and black & white the next month, or doing digital one month and prints another month. The club would then only need half as many judge chair volunteers; it would lead to shorter meetings and members would have fewer images to enter each month to be competitive. Changing to this method would hopefully increase participation in each monthly contest.

Other proposals, ideas and discussion included:

- Make each monthly contest theme based
- Upload theme based images to a gallery on the website
- Only allow images shot within the past 2 years illegible for contest entries
- Limit the number of times you can resubmit a photo that has hasn't previously won
- Get involved in service projects and putting on programs at schools and church groups
- Invite school aged kids and parents to a camera club meeting
- Do workshops on basic camera functions and photography basics for beginning photographer groups
- Have a meeting where everyone brings their camera for a round table discussion on how to use it
- Have more hands on programs
- Try the view and review again to see what kind of response it gets
- Utilize the Dorothy Pecaut Nature Center to do a public photography how to event
- Do away with 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and honorable mentions and just have a top 10 each month
- Revise the point system and cut out some of the photographer of the year awards
- Do away with the open class category for the year-end print and digital images of the year
- Should those that enter N4C contests help defray the mailing costs?
- Do a program on color printing and color management
- Do away with in club competition in December
- Have a refresher on entering competitions and a live website review demonstration in October
- Organizing more camera club outings and field trips
- Discussed the need and importance to have a committee to organize and take charge of outings and field trips as per the By-Laws

- Award or recognition for most improved photographer of the year and how to go about establishing the criteria

After much discussion on the above topics, Kevin Smith noted that even though the board came up with a lot of good ideas, he suggested picking one or two areas that are most important to bring forth and get that handled first before moving on to other ideas and suggestions. The board then decided that the two most important items to bring up before the membership initially would be that of alternating the monthly contests with digital and prints, and requiring all members' names to go into a judges' pool and to serve as judge if called upon by the Judge Chair. It was decided that this should be brought up at the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting due to anticipated low attendance at the first meeting because of the N4C Convention.

It was concluded that everyone on the board was in agreement and on the same page. Thanks to Tom for opening up his home for the meeting and providing refreshments. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug Conrad  
Secretary/Treasurer