



NIAGARA FRONTIER REGIONAL CAMERA CLUBS

AM-CENTER CAMERA CLUB, AMHERST, NY
CANYON CAMERA CLUB, PERRY, NY
ERIE PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB, ERIE, PA
ST. CATHARINES PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB, ST. CATHARINES, ONT.
SOUTHTOWNS CAMERA CLUB, HAMBURG, NY
TWIN TIER CAMERA CLUB, OLEAN, NY

BATAVIA PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB, BATAVIA, NY
NIAGARA FALLS CAMERA CLUB, NIAGARA FALLS, ONT.
HAMILTON CAMERA CLUB, HAMILTON, ONT.
SCIENCE MUSEUM CAMERA CLUB, BUFFALO, NY
TWIN CITIES CAMERA CLUB, TONAWANDA, NY
WELLAND CAMERA CLUB, WELLAND, ONT.

Minutes of the Board of Directors

February 24, 2013

The Niagara Falls Conference Center, [Castellani Room](#)
Niagara Falls, New York

President Deanne Cunningham called the meeting to order at 1:34 pm.

1. ATTENDANCE:

CLUB REPRESENTATIVE:

AM-CENTER: Don Smith
BATAVIA:
CANYON: Ravi Sampath
ERIE: Patty Raydo
HAMILTON: Rob Thorne
NIAGARA FALLS: Chris Empey
ST. CATHARINES: Stan Sammy
SCIENCE MUSEUM: Sharon Dentice
SOUTH TOWNS: Manny LoPresto
TWIN CITIES: Mike Dziak
TWIN TIER: Wade Aiken
WELLAND: Tom Linton

OTHER ATTENDEES:

EPC: Larry Brown WCC: Darren Creighton
SMCC: Mary Lou Frost TCCC: Doug Hansgate
STCC: Janet LoPresto

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Deanne Cunningham
VICE-PRES: Ravi Sampath
SECRETARY: Joan Schumaker
CDN. TREAS:
U.S. TREAS:
PAST PRES: Stan Sammy

APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

WEBMASTER: Tom Linton
SLIDE CHAIR: Chris Empey
CONVENTION CHAIRS: Wade Aiken
Rita Weryha

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF January 13, 2013 MINUTES: Joan noted that the application for IRS not-for-profit status is for 501 © 7 rather than 8 and that this correction has been made. There was unanimous approval of the revised minutes, with a motion by Mike Dziak and a second by Chris Empey.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF TREASURER REPORTS:

- **AMERICAN TREASURER'S REPORT** - Chuck Vallone sent his 4th Report for the 2012-13 year, dated 2/19/2013, showing a balance of \$ 2,957.20. Chuck noted that a two-year reservation and commitment has been signed with the Marriot on Millersport for the 2014 and 2015 Conventions. The reduction in rate of \$17K/ year minimum was dependent upon a two-year contract. A \$1K deposit has been paid for the 2014 Convention. Another major expense was the

\$850 fee sent with the application for IRS Not-for-Profit Status. Chuck also noted that he has yet to deposit US checks for \$4,394 from registrations for the 2013 Convention.

- **CANADIAN TREASURER'S REPORT** - Leslie Khan sent a report stating that the main activity in the Canadian account was PayPal deposits of \$8,831.13, resulting from 65 full registrants for the 2013 Convention. On average, a fee of \$4.36 was deducted by PayPal. There are also Canadian checks totaling \$1,260 yet to be deposited from Convention registrations.
- The American and Canadian Treasurers' Reports were unanimously approved with a motion by Patty Raydo and a second by Stan Sammy.

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Update on Not-for-profit status---** Chuck Vallone sent the following report:
 - Non-Profit Status Filings with IRS – Forms Updated and Submitted 2/18/2013
 - Support from Council of Non Profits evaporated / mutually dropped
 - Applied for and obtained a copy of the NY State documents acknowledging our Not for profit Status in NY State to support paperwork submittals
 - Our Secretary Joan Schumaker reviewed and assisted toward best compliance
 - Joan also prepared submittal for New York State Sales Tax Exemption application and we have received our NYS Sales Tax Exemption Certificate

Chuck also reported that he has submitted copies of the Sales Tax Exempt Purchase Certificate (Form ST-119.1) to both the Niagara Falls Conference Center and the Sheraton at the Falls Hotel. Joan noted that Form ST-119.1 must have an original signature of an NFRCC officer. At this point, anyone making purchases in New York State on behalf of the NFRCC should provide Chuck with the name and address of the vendor so that he can send a completed form for use in making the purchase.

- **List of Potential Judges/Presenters ---**
 - In January it was decided that the NFRCC should have a list of potential judges and speakers and Joan offered to compile this list. Joan reported that she has only received information from Erie and Welland. **Other clubs still need to send Joan the names of potential speakers and judges.** (Lists of judges will be sent on to Doug Hansgate – see below)
 - Stan Sammy asked if clubs would be interested in having another CAPA training program for judges. If there is enough interest, St. Catharines will sponsor a CAPA training program for about \$130 Canadian. **Club representatives need to provide Stan with feedback.**
 - Doug Hansgate indicated that he will check on the potential for PSA training judges.
 - Doug also suggested that the NFRCC have one person in charge of assigning and monitoring the success of judges. Workshops or open forums could be held for judges where they could work on consistency.
 - Mike Dziak moved and Wade Aiken seconded the following motion: An NFRCC Judge Coordinator shall be appointed to compile and maintain a list of judges, and establish an in-service training program for area judges. This motion was approved unanimously. Doug agreed to serve as the first NFRCC Judge Coordinator

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

- **Greater Toronto Council of Camera Clubs** – President Harvey Rogers suggested possible joint activities between the GTCCC and NFRCC:
 - Since both regions have a wealth of images, a competition between the NFRCC and the GTCCC could be held as an all day event and alternate between Toronto and Buffalo.

- GTCCC is holding its first Education Day on May 4, entitled “Capturing Light and Shadows.” It will be an all day event with tutorials, guest speakers, lunch, and trade tables. They invite NFRCC members to participate and would like this event to become similar to the NFRCC Annual Convention.
- Joint field trips are a possibility
- The GTCCC has an Annual Awards Night and Print Gala/Reception that could provide other opportunities for cooperating.

The NFRCC Board expressed an interest in discussing these suggestions. Mr. Rogers will be attending the NFRCC Convention and will be meeting with Dee and others from the NFRCC to discuss ways the two organizations can work together. Collaboration would result in more PR for the NFRCC.

- **Responding to E-mails** - Dee requested that board members respond to e-mails that are requesting feedback.
- **Chris Empey** – Is resigning the position of Digital Slide Chair effective June 30, 2013. He wants to have time to enjoy the annual convention and also plans to help organize next year’s convention. A replacement is needed and members serving as current club slide chairs are possibilities. Chris will help train his replacement. Chris received a round of applause for his excellent work as Slide Chair for the past number of years.

6. CONVENTION 2013 REPORT: Wade Aiken and Rita Weryha

- **Wade noted some additions to presenters and distributed the Final Convention Schedule in two formats.** Minor revisions were needed to the detailed schedule. Joan will make these changes and send both formats with the minutes. See Attachments I and II
- **Dee went through the General Checklist for the Convention** – Individuals and clubs were reminded of specific assignments and/or items they needed to bring to the Convention. This included the following: Projectors - NFRCC, South Towns, Twin Tier, Erie (2 - 1 as a back up); Scoring systems - Niagara Falls and South Towns; Light Box - South Towns; Back up bulbs for light box – Erie; Laptops - Patty indicated that she was bringing a laptop and suggested that others also bring laptops; Easels – Joan; Trophies – Ravi; Pins – Dee; Banner – Stan; Ribbons – Chris, Manny, ...
- **Information for Dave Bauer** - Wade needs to provide Dave with a list of presenters, the computers they will be using (PC or MAC), if they have projectors and/or speakers, and what equipment they need us to supply.
- **Host/introducer assignments** – Patty Raydo will assign presenters to the various clubs.
- **Sponsors and Vendors** – Mary Lou needs a final list of sponsors and vendors for the Banquet Program
- **Post Convention Workshop** - Doug Hansgate is working with Hunt’s to schedule a post convention workshop on March 18 at his studio in Tonawanda. This will be an all day event where photographers will be able to try out various equipment. Details will be announced to those attending the Convention
- **Club table for handouts** – Clubs are encouraged to bring information on coming events that can be distributed at a special table at the Convention.

7. FALL SEMINAR 2013: Ravi Sampath

- Ravi reported that Michael’s Banquet Facility has increased their costs and that ticket prices will need to be \$50 rather than \$45.

- Three potential presenters are being considered: Adam Jones (sponsored by Canon); Michael and Tina Timmons; and Wendy Shattil and Rob Rozinski. Ravi is going to check with Nikon to see if they have presenters they would sponsor.

8. CONVENTION 2014 REPORT: Doug Hansgate

- **The Marriot at Millersport** – This will be the venue for both the 2014 and 2015 Conventions.
- **Track system** – Doug reported that he is moving forward with a track system for the 2014 convention. Presenters will offer programs at three different levels plus possible workshops. There may be an additional cost for attendees who seek to spend all their time with a given presenter or to attend multiple workshops. Mary Lou suggested that we have questionnaires to help people determine the level they should select since they will need to sign up in advance for a particular track.

9. WEBSITE: Tom Linton and Patty Raydo

- Tom reported that he is using a new online store for Convention registrations since he could not resolve some problems with the old online store. The old store allowed registrants to identify the club they are affiliated with. Chris and Patty are going to try to fix the old store.
- Patty will be transferring the domain name to her name.

10. INTERCLUB DIGITAL SLIDE COMPETITIONS REPORT – Chris Empey

- **Chris handed out 4th McKellar results.** When asked how he finds judges for McKellar, Chris responded that he searches on-line camera clubs to find judges.
- **A new Digital slide Chair is needed for 2013-14 to replace Chris** – See item 5 above.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

- **Election of 2013-14 NFRCC Officers** - The 2013-14 slate was presented by Stan Sammy : President - Ravi Sampath; Vice President - Rob Thorne; Secretary – Joan Schumaker; US Treasurer – Chuck Vallone; and Canadian Treasurer – Leslie Khan. There were no additional nominations. Mike Dziak moved that “The Secretary cast one ballot for the slate of officers as presented.” This motion was seconded by Wade Aiken and approved unanimously.
- **Posting of minutes on the website** – After discussion, it was agreed that the NFRCC would continue publishing minutes of BOD meetings on the website. The minutes will be accessible to member clubs but not to the general public. Joan will forward to Tom Linton the minutes from the past two years to be added to the website. Tom will notify club representatives when the minutes are posted and remind them of their club username and password.
- **NFRCC Bank Card** – After some discussion, it was determined that it would be beneficial for the NFRCC to obtain a bankcard. A motion was made by Joan, seconded by Dee, and approved that Chuck should obtain a NFRCC Bank Card.
- **Financial Support** – It was suggested that the NFRCC seek financial support from the Canadian Consulate and the Niagara Falls Tourism Bureau.

12. CLUB NEWS:

- **Potential New Club Members** - Doug Hansgate reported that the **Port Colburn Camera Club** is interested in joining the NFRCC. He will contact them and have them send a letter asking to join the NFRCC. Two other potential members are the Jamestown Photography Club and the Rochester Camera Club. Other board members with contacts in these clubs offered to see if there was interest in joining the NFRCC.
- **SMCC**– Mary Lou announced that photographers are needed for the **Ride for Roswell**. Information will be available at the 2013 Convention or you may contact Mary Lou for details
- **CCC** – Joan announced that the **11th Annual Photographer’s Dream Day** is June 29 at the Mt. Morris Dam Visitor Center. Information will be available at the 2013 Convention and on the NFRCC Website.
- **TTCC** – Wade announced that Twin Tier was continuing their project of providing Animal Adopter Photos to encourage the adoption of pets needing homes.

13. Adjournment: At 3:42 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Manny, seconded by Dee, and approved unanimously.

Remaining 2012-13 Dates:

- **Convention: March 15-17, 2013**
- **FINAL MEETING --- April 14, 2013 -- Conference Center Niagara Falls**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Schumaker, Secretary

Attachment I – 2013 Convention Schedule - as of 2/24/13

Attachment II – 2013 Convention Schedule (Block Format) - as of 2/24/13