



# 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

January 13, 2013

The Niagara Falls Sheraton Hotel, Sapphire Room  
Niagara Falls, New York

President Deanne Cunningham called the meeting to order at 1:37 pm.

### 1. ATTENDANCE:

#### CLUB REPRESENTATIVE:

AM-CENTER: Don Smith  
BATAVIA:  
CANYON: Michael Carney  
ERIE: Patty Raydo  
HAMILTON: Rob Thorne  
NIAGARA FALLS: Chris Empey  
ST. CATHARINES: Victor Ens  
SCIENCE MUSEUM: Sharon Dentice  
SOUTH TOWNS: Manny LoPresto  
TWIN CITIES: Mike Dziak  
TWIN TIER: Matthew Brown  
WELLAND: Tom Linton

#### OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Deanne Cunningham  
VICE-PRES:  
SECRETARY: Joan Schumaker  
CDN. TREAS: Leslie Khan  
U.S. TREAS: Charles Vallone  
PAST PRES: Stan Sammy

#### APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

WEBMASTER: Tom Linton  
SLIDE CHAIR: Chris Empey  
CONVENTION CHAIR: Wade Aiken

#### OTHER ATTENDEES:

TTCC: Barbara Kubiak      EPC: Larry Brown  
HCC: Leonie Holmes      EPC: Rita Weryha – 2013 Convention  
STCC: Janet LoPresto      STCC: Pat Lannon – 2013 Convention  
SCPC: Cathy Swain      STCC: Jackie Lannon – 2013 Convention  
TCCC: Doug Hansgate

**2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF October 28, 2012 MINUTES:** Joan Schumaker noted that two typos have been corrected in the minutes that were distributed. There was unanimous approval of the revised October 28, 2012 Minutes, with a motion by Stan Sammy and a second by Tom Linton.

### 3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF TREASURER REPORTS:

- **AMERICAN TREASURER'S REPORT** - Chuck Vallone. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Report for the 2012-13 year, dated 1/12/13, shows a balance of \$ 5,375.85.
- **CANADIAN TREASURER'S REPORT** - Leslie Khan. The checking account balance is \$15,982.52 as of January 13, 2013.

- The American and Canadian Treasurers' Reports were unanimously approved with a motion by Tom Linton and a second by Stan Sammy .

#### 4. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Update on Grant Monies** --- Leslie Khan reported that the Niagara Falls Camera Club received a grant payment in December. He and Chuck Vallone confirmed that all clubs had made use of the grant program that ended December 31, 2012.
- **Update on Not-for-profit status**--- Chuck Vallone noted that New York State has approved not-for-profit status for the NFRCC. Paperwork is still being completed for submission to the US IRS to gain recognition as a not-for-profit 501© 8 organization. Chuck distributed two pages of form #1024 that include a summary of NFRCC activities and financial reports for the past four years.
- **Update on 2014 Convention Progress** – Doug Hansgate presented his plans for the 2014 convention and responded to questions and concerns about the use of the Marriot Hotel as a new venue. Concerns expressed were: standard room cost of \$129.00 (plus 13.75% NYS and Erie County taxes), a minimum of \$23,000.00 (not including service charge and sales tax) required for banquet food, beverages, and meeting room rental – *Note: this minimum has since been corrected to \$17,600.00*, clarification of the room rental chart, the responsibility of the NFRCC with respect to payment for reserved hotel rooms that are not used, and our ability to attract the minimum number of convention attendees needed to break even if the Marriot is used for the convention.

In his plans for the 2014 convention, Doug noted that: attendees will have options for lower cost hotels near the Marriot, presentations will be divided into three tracts geared to the experience level of photographers and fewer presenters will be needed for this format, a new marketing plan needs to be implemented to increase the number of attendees, and that he will be meeting with Marriot staff to discuss the concerns expressed by board members.

Patty Raydo moved that a committee be appointed to review the 2014 and 2015 Marriot contracts and decide on the venue for those years. The Board approved this with Doug, Chuck, Leslie, Stan, Chris and Joan to serve on the committee.

#### 5. CORRESPONDENCE:

- **NFCC Help Portraits** – Dee reported that the NFRCC received a letter from the Niagara Falls Camera Club thanking us for our contribution to their Help Portrait event on December 8. This project was discussed in the October 28 minutes and a copy of the NFRCC letter is attached with details summarizing this year's project. Any clubs interested in participating in next year's Help Portrait can obtain information on this project by contacting Chris Empey. **See Attachment #1**

#### 6. 2012 FALL SEMINAR REPORTS

- **Report by Ravi Sampath on 2012 Fall Seminar and progress on 2013 Fall Seminar:** Ravi provided an initial report on the 2012 Fall Seminar in his December 15 e-mail to board members. He used attendance reports from Registrar Janet LoPresto and Leslie Khan, but noted that Chuck Vallone had recorded a few more paid reservations. Those are reflected in the final report discussed here. \$913 from the raffle added to the profit for this event.

Ravi has made arrangements for the 2013 Fall Seminar to again be held at Michael's Banquet Facility in Hamburg, NY.

- **Report on finances from 2012 Fall Seminar** – Chuck and Leslie submitted their financial report for the seminar showing 179 paid attendees, 3 no shows, and 4 comp tickets for a total of 180 present and at the luncheon. The total profit for this event was \$2,249.69. **See Attachment #2**

## 7. CONVENTION 2013 REPORT --- Wade Aiken

- Wade provided a chart showing the preliminary schedule for the convention presenters. This chart has since been updated. **See Attachment #3** He also noted some changes: Gary Post will not be a speaker; Gary Black will be doing a fashion shoot to replace Laurie Excell; and Joe LeFever will replace Scott Linstead. Vendors will sponsor presentations on Friday afternoon. The Friday Keynote Presenter will be Rob Simpson and the Saturday Keynote Presenter is Nevada Weir. Additional details about all presenters and links to their websites are available on the NFRCC website: [www.nfrcc.org](http://www.nfrcc.org) . The Registrar for the convention is Dan Palmer.
- Clubs are invited to bring information to be distributed at the convention.
- **Ribbons** - Chris Empey has Honors Ribbons, will check to see if we need more, and notify Ravi . Karl has enough place ribbons for this year.
- **Projectors** - Speakers need to be encouraged to bring their own projectors, if possible. We will then be able to determine how many additional projectors are needed. Possible projectors are available from the NFRCC, South Towns, Twin Tiers, NFRCC, Erie, (2 - 1 will be a backup). Erie will also bring back up bulbs for the light box.
- **Scoring systems** - Niagara Falls and South Towns will provide scoring systems. South Towns will also supply a Light Box,
- **Other items** – Clubs signed up to serve as hosts/introducers for presenters. Patty Raydo will coordinate the host assignments. Janet LoPresto, Mary Lou Frost and Dee will make posters for the convention.

## 8. WEBSITE - Tom Linton and Patty Raydo

Patty is going to take over the website when Tom leaves later this year. Don Smith will help.

## 9. INTERCLUB DIGITAL SLIDE COMPETITIONS REPORT – Chris Empey

- **Each Club needs to submit to Chris the names and total numbers of club members who are competing in club “slide” competitions this year.** This information is needed in preparation for the Golden Horseshoe competition and was due January 1. Chris distributed results from McKellar Competitions #2 & #3

## 10. NEW BUSINESS:

- **List of Potential Judges/Presenters:** A request has been made that the NFRCC compile an updated list of club members who are willing to serve as potential judges and presenters for clubs in the NFRCC. Each club should send Joan the names and contact information of those willing to serve and she will compile and distribute a final list.
- **Nominating Committee for 2013-14 NFRCC Officers** (Barb Kubiak, Mary Lou Frost, Stan Sammy and Vic Ens) to present slate. The Nominating Committee noted that they were not yet ready with the proposed slate. **(However, the 2013-14 slate was complete within the next two days and is as follows: President - Ravi Sampath; Vice President - Rob Thorne; Secretary – Joan Schumaker; US Treasurer – Chuck Vallone; Canadian Treasurer – Leslie Khan).** Voting will take place at the February 24, 2013 meeting.
- Remaining trophies were returned at this meeting in preparation for the convention in March.

## 11. CLUB NEWS:

- While his announcement was not from any one club, Doug Hansgate invited all clubs and members to take advantage of the Meet Up site that he created, known as the Buffalo/Niagara Photographers Guild. Doug noted that participation in the site has grown exponentially and that any interested club can post their events on the site. Go to [www.Meetup.com](http://www.Meetup.com) and look for the above guild name. Twin Cities and Niagara Falls events are already listed on this site. Other clubs interested in posting events on the site should have a representative contact Doug at [doug.hansgate@verizon.net](mailto:doug.hansgate@verizon.net)
- **Club Fees** – Chris Empey asked about club fees such as membership and payments for presenters and judges. Membership fees varied from \$20 to \$50 or more for larger clubs. Payments to speakers ranged from \$35 to \$125 or more depending on miles traveled. Judges averaged \$30 - \$50 depending on miles traveled. The question also was raised about how competition levels are determined. St. Catharines and Twin Cities have included this information on their websites.

**13. Adjournment:** At 3:40 PM a motion to adjourn was made by Stan Sammy, seconded by Leslie Khan, and approved unanimously.

- Remaining Dates:
  - PRE-CONVENTION MEETING ---Feb. 24, 2013 -- **Conference Center Niagara Falls**
  - ***Convention: March 15-17, 2013***
  - FINAL MEETING --- April 14, 2013 -- **Conference Center Niagara Falls**

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Schumaker, Secretary