

LMGC Photography Annual Report 2024-25

based on *LMGC 2024-45 Photography Committee Goals*

President's theme: *Foundation 200; the next 100 years*

Program theme: *Past, Present, and Future*

Respectfully submitted by: Anne Kaufman

PRESERVING OUR PAST

1. Document LMGc photography award achievements and archive photos on the website.

Gathering award-winning images remains an ongoing process. However, several photos from the past few years have been secured. As additional images are submitted, Nancy Guldberg continues to update the website accordingly.

2. Post past photography monthly newsletters on the website.

This goal was revised: instead of posting monthly newsletters, we opted to archive yearly Photography Annual Reports, which summarize events and awards. Nevertheless, monthly newsletters featuring club and zone updates, upcoming meeting dates, and a photography challenge to inspire creativity and engagement were regularly emailed to interested members.

PROMOTING OUR PRESENT

1. Complete the two photography projects initiated for this year:

a. October 17th Photo Gallery Exhibit - Minnetonka Center for the Arts.

Inspired by a hands-on workshop with GCA Photography Conference speaker, Mary Jo Hoffman (held at her Shoreview MN home) members created stunning flat lay compositions. The final exhibit at Minnetonka Center for the Arts showcased 15 of these artful flat lay works, along with 26 additional photos including GCA award-winning photos.

This event was featured in several GCA publications:

- News from Zone XI: ["Inspiration from photography conference speaker, Mary Jo Hoffman"](#)
- [GCA Members: Connect](#) article on the photo gallery exhibit.

b. Fall Photo Note Card Sale - Proceeds to the Scholarship Fund.

Huge thanks to the 21 club photographers whose images were selected for the Photo Note Card Sale. With 133 sets sold, the event raised over \$2,000 for the LMGc's Scholarship Fund!

2. **Enhance the two photography projects with meetings and workshops.**

The group met monthly, in person, during the club's seasonal year April through November. Several hands-on workshops were offered throughout the season.

- **July:** A salon-style image review with constructive feedback on photos being considered for the gallery exhibit and note card sales.
- **September:** A demonstration workshop focused on editing, printing, and mounting photos in preparation for exhibition and GCA competitions.

3. **Coordinate with the program committee for a speaker at a general membership meeting.**

At the October 2025 membership meeting, professional photographer and St. Paul Garden Club member, Michelle Mero Riedel gave an engaging talk on "Photography in Your Garden."

4. **Recognize LMGC photographers honored with GCA awards in 2024-25:**

Harriet Chute - 2nd place in Class 2: *Bountiful Bugs* and recipient of the **Novice Award**, 2025 GCA Annual Meeting Flower Show - *Flora and Fauna*

Becky Field - Photos featured in *Dirt* (Fall 2024, pp.11 & 23)

Peggy Searles – Photo featured in *Dirt* (Fall 2024 p.23)

Lisa Melamed - Honorable Mention in Class 4: *Rock Lobster* (p.52) in *Nature's Song* (Winter 2025 *Focus* Contest)

Anne Kaufman – 1st place Class 6: *Texture (flat lay)* for *The Artist's Toolbox* (Fall 2024 *Focus* Contest). An additional photo was featured on [GCA Facebook](#) (March 3, 2025) supporting GCA's advocacy for America's scenic highway preservation.

PROCURING OUR FUTURE

1. **Schedule Don Tredinnick, guest speaker on flower photography for a 2025-26 general membership meeting.**

Don Tredinnick will present at the July 2025 member meeting on the topic "Culling Your Photos" in preparation for World Photography Day (August 19, 2025). Members will be encouraged to celebrate by sharing an image taken anywhere around the world on Instagram.

2. **Assist with documenting the Steve Kelley and Arla Carmichael gardens with photos for the Smithsonian collection (a two-year project).**

Several photographers have offered to assist with photographing these gardens as needed.