

NECCC DIGITAL INTERCLUB END OF YEAR REPORT 2025-2026 SEASON

The highest scoring clubs for the 2025-26 season of the NECCC Digital Interclub Competitions were announced in the Spring Interclub report, the third and last competition of the season.

The high scoring club plaque winners were:

- Color A** Greater Lynn Photographic Association (MA)
Color B Coastal Camera Club (CT) *Must move to Class A Color for 2026-27*
Nature A Greater Lynn Photographic Association (MA)
Nature B Seven Hills Camera Club (MA) *Must move to Class A Nature for 2026-27*
Monochrome A Greater Lynn Photographic Association (MA)
Monochrome B North Country Camera Club (NH) *Must move to Class A Mono for 2026-27*

Image of the Year

All 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place images for the six sections, two classes and three competitions were sent to our end of the year judge **Gerald H. Emmerich, Jr., HonFPASA, GMPSA/B** of Wisconsin. He selected the six images below as the **Images of the Year**, one per class/section and he then selected the **Daniel Charbonnet Photograph of the Year** out of those six images.

Winning Images of the Year:

- Color A** *Going for a Ride* by James Brady, MNEC, Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc. (MA)
Color B *Window Table* by Charles Lord, Whaling City Camera Club (MA)
Nature A *Limpkin Combat* by Doris Monteiro, MNEC, Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc (MA)
Nature B *Polar Bear Mother and Cub* by John Hoffman, North Country Camera Club (NH)
Mono A *Stairwell of Hartness House* by Barbara Brissenden, Merrimack Valley Camera Club (MA)
Mono B *Powder Magazine, Louisburg* by Charles Lord, Whaling City Camera Club (MA)

Daniel Charbonnet Memorial Photograph of the Year Award

In honor, and in memory, of Daniel Charbonnet, past President of NECCC (who made a large monetary bequest to NECCC), a memorial award for the Digital Interclub Image of the Year has been established. This award chooses the "best of the best" from the six winning Digital Interclub images. **The winning image is:**

Daniel Charbonnet Memorial Photograph of the Year
Going For a Ride by James Brady, MNEC, Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc. (MA)

Congratulations to the clubs and individual winners. The winning images are posted on the NECCC website. Thanks to everyone on another great and successful season.

All club and individual awards will be presented at the Annual NECCC Reps meeting which this year will be held as a zoom meeting on Saturday June 20, 2026 at 1pm with a program from Professional Photographer **Cole Thompson** after the business meeting. Club presidents, club reps and club interclub directors along with the Image of the Year winners will be hearing by email from **Meredith Harris**, HonNEC our meeting coordinator.

Pam Lintner, HonNEC; **Susan Mosser**, HonFPASA, LPSA, HonNEC **NECCC Interclub Co-Chairs**

Please see second page for notes from our judge on the winning Images of the Year

Judges' comments- Gerry only had entry numbers & titles. He did not have names or placement won or clubs. Please share with the winners or makers of the images.

For your information, he chose three- 1st place images and three 3rd place images.

by Gerry Emmerich, HonFPSA, GMPSA/P

Generally, for each section in each class, I selected my top three or four images and then tried to figure out which image should be, in my opinion, the Image of the Year.

Class B – Nature

My top four in this group include BN1 *Polar Bear Mother and Cub*, BN2 *Big Bite*, BN6, *Kingbird Feeding*, and BN8 *Peekaboo*.

Big Bite had nice colors and good nature story. It could have been cropped a little closer but probably wasn't sharp enough to do so. *Kingbird Feeding* also had a great nature story, and the open mouth was great. But some of the leaves were a bit hot, and the merger of the tail of the damselfly and baby kingbird was unfortunate. *Peekaboo* the bubbles were great, but the out-of-focus foreground was too large.

My top four choices in this category and class were pretty equal, but I chose *Polar Bear Mother and Cub* as Image of the Year. The nature story was just OK, but I liked the composition, depth, color combination, the faces of both bears, and just the overall "feel" of the image.

Notes from Susan on the makers and clubs:

Polar Bear Mother and Cub by John Hoffman, North Country Camera Club (NH) **Winner**

Big Bite by Mohan Sunuwar, NE Shutterbugs (MA)

Kingbird Feeding by Jim Deluco, Seven Hills Camera Club (MA)

Peekaboo by Wayne Foote, Eastern Maine Camera Club (ME)

Class B – Mono

My top four in this group include BM1 *United We Stand Infrared*, BM2 *Dramatic Sky Over Parker River*, BM6 *At the Wall*, and BM8 *Powder Magazine, Louisbourg*. I like the sky and strong composition of *United We Stand Infrared*, and I like the "dramatic sky" of BM2. I like the story of *At the Wall*, but I think the wheelchair on the left and its reflection on the right were too far apart. Moving the camera angle to the right would have brought them closer together.

I chose *Powder Magazine, Louisbourg* as the Class B Mono Image of the Year. The composition is great – the barrel lead-in on the right, the boat lead-in on the left, the beams on top. I like the barrels at the vanishing point, and I like the stone walls. And the overall sharpness shows all the details.

Notes from Susan on the makers and clubs:

Powder Magazine, Louisbourg by Charles Lord, Whaling City Camera Club (MA) **Winner**

United We Stand Infrared by Karen Lord, North Country Camera Club (NH)

Dramatic Sky over Parker River by Sally Turner, Manchester Camera Club (NH)

At the Wall by Christine Sendrowski, Seven Hills Camera Club (MA)

Class B – Color

My top three in this group include BC3 *Manhattan Glow*, BC5 *Milkweed Nest*, and BC9 *Window Table*. *Manhattan Glow* is the classic view with good composition. I think it's a little bright and could use a bit more contrast. I really liked *Milkweed Nest*, but the big white frame is too overpowering for my taste – it washes out all the detail.

I like the composition and lighting of *Window Table*. And I like the detail and exposure of the view through the window. But I would have eliminated the top daisy merger with the bottom of the window.

Notes from Susan on the makers and clubs:

Window Table by Charles Lord, Whaling City Camera Club (MA) **Winner**

Manhattan Glow by Mohan Sunuwar, NE Shutterbugs (MA)

Milkweed Nest by Debra Burger, NE Garden Club (NH)

Class A – Nature

AN7 *Limpkin Combat* and AN9 *Baby Barred Owls Last Day in the Nest* were my two favorites in this very strong group of nature photos, with a “shout-out” to the *Leopard* and *Caracara*. Both photos had good nature stories and great color, focus, and exposure.

But I chose the perfectly timed *Limpkin Battle* as the Class A Image of the Year. The overall sharpness, action, and timing of the exposure are great, and it's good that the top of the back bird's head does not merge with the shoreline in the background. It's too bad that there's not enough room above the birds to crop out the shoreline.

Notes from Susan on the makers and clubs:

Limpkin Combat by Doris Monteiro, MNEC, Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc (MA) **Winner**

Baby Barred Owls Last Day in the Nest by Cynthia Rand, Central NE Camera Club (MA)

Leopard With Capture by Frank Forward, Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc (MA)

Caracara Closeup in Flight by Sharon Colacino, Gateway Camera Club (MA)

Class A – Mono

Class A Mono is another strong set of images. I had a tough time settling on my four top images – AM2 *Spirit of the Northlands*, AM3 *Are They Gone?*, AM4 *Stairwell of Hartness House*, and AM9 *Torre de Calatrava II*.

I really like the details on the horse's face in *Spirit of the Northlands*, but the out-of-focus bright spot on the neck was a bit distracting. The highlights on the face and Venetian blind are very dramatic in *Are They Gone?*, but the lack of even a bit of detail on the right of the frame was a problem for me. It might have been better to just crop the bottom half of the image. *Torre de Calatrava II* has great composition, contrast, and sharpness, and I like the sky.

But I chose *Stairwell of Hartness House* as the Class A Mono Image of the Year. I like the composition – strong diagonals, balance of light and dark areas, and the repeating lines of the stairs, and especially the repeating lines of the stairway spindles, including the ones at the top of the frame.

Notes from Susan on the makers and clubs:

Stairwell of Hartness House by Barbara Brissenden, Merrimack Valley Camera Club (MA) **Winner**

Torre de Calatrava II by Larry Dunn, Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc (MA)

Spirit of the Northlands by Robyn Abrams, Flagpole Camera Club (CT)

Are They Gone? by Melissa Bilotta, Flagpole Camera Club (CT)

Class A – Color

Any one of my top three images in the Class A Color section could be the best – AC1 *Gotcha*, AC6 *Looking Up Inside Nauset Lighthouse*, and AC9 *Going for a Ride*. *Gotcha* has great up-close action, complete with mud flying. *Looking Up Inside Nauset Lighthouse* has great color impact, good detail, and good composition. I also like *Pool Shark* – the man's eyeball looks like a mini cueball; and the panning of *Peak Speed* is perfect, including the blurred foreground green, the middle ground gray, and the background green, and the race car is sharp.

But I chose *Going for a Ride* as Class A Color Image of the Year. The bulldogger is sharp from head to toe; his feet are off the ground; and his expression is great. I also like the composition, including the nicely positioned onlookers in the upper left and upper right, with the background nicely out of focus. And the timing of the exposure is just right.

Notes from Susan on the makers and clubs:

Going for a Ride by James Brady, MNEC, Greater Lynn Photographic Assoc. (MA) **Winner**

Gotcha by John Hoffman, North Country Camera Club (NH)

Looking Up Inside Nauset Lighthouse by Michael Hagerty, Seacoast Camera Club (NH)

Pool Shark by Vikki Quick, Merrimack Valley Camera Club (MA)

Peak Speed by Sue Thompson, Flagpole Camera Club (CT)

Charbonnet Photographer of the Year

I would be comfortable selecting any one of the three Class A Images of the Year for the Charbonnet Photographer of the Year Award. *Going for a Ride*, *Stairwell of Hartness House*, and *Limpkin Combat* are all worthy candidates. And though they are not eligible, *Gotcha* and *Looking Up Inside Nauset Lighthouse* would also deserve consideration for the award. All five images have good composition, interesting subjects, and great technique.

The timing of the exposure of *Gotcha* (if it were eligible) and *Limpkin Combat* might give one of them an edge. But the outstanding timing, composition, and technique of *Going for a Ride* make it my choice for the Charbonnet Photograph of the Year Award.

Gerry Emmerich, HonFPSA, GMPSA/P

Thanks for inviting me to judge the 2026 NECCC Images of the Year again this year. Gerry