



# Shutter Release

October 2007



## GREEN TEA By Grace Darney

This year, we'd like to suggest that members bring their own mugs to meetings. This will save the club money (even though we currently have a large number of styrofoam cups, at some point we'll have to purchase more -- out of that small, non-profit bank account).

You bring your cup, and you take it home with you. There's even a sink in the coffee room so you can give it a quick rinse.

Thanks everyone! Help your club's bank account while helping the earth.

## Upcoming Programs

### **Oct 2 – Print Night**

Many of you asked for more chances to show and discuss your work. We hear you, and this is the time to bring out some (2 or 3) of those prints you've been keeping to yourself since last season. This time there will be comments - come and find out what other members have to say about them.

**Note:** this session is specifically for prints -- which can have quite different qualities from projected images. So if you have digital images for review, take them to WalMart or CostCo for printing if you don't have a photo printer at home. 8x12 prints are quite reasonable in price these days, many places charging less than \$5.00.

**In Preparation:** Remember to get your prints done ahead of the meeting! If using a lab service, make sure they will be ready in time!

Prints must be at least 8x10 so people in the room can see them. They should be mounted on cardboard so they stand up properly on the easel (any firm cardboard will do, even the sides from cardboard boxes)

### **Oct 16 – Projection Night**

Tonight is a member's night -- members will bring in images for review, this time for projection.

### **Oct 30 – Halloween Party**

It's Halloween (well, almost). Time for some good fun and fright. Members, bring out your "scariest" shots that will send people running for the door! All media welcome (prints, digital, slides) Costumes are not required, but fun to wear and there will be treats at break time.

**In Preparation:** Send digital images to [photos@nwphoto.org](mailto:photos@nwphoto.org) at least 24 hours before the meeting.

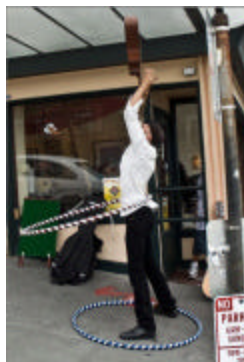
## Seattle Outing Report by Shona LaFortune

Tony, Matti, Peter, Justin and Shona met early at the school and headed out at 7:30 sharp. Lou met us in Seattle so we had 5 in Tony's car. (Thanks, Tony!) We had only a 45 minute wait at the border, where Justin and Peter got out to photograph the Peace Arch park. We arrived in Seattle at 11 am, just at the agreed time for meeting Lou, and after the short walk from the very reasonably priced parking (\$7) we set out on the photo hunt route.

We deviated here and there from the laid out route, and added some exploring at the end. There were infinite photo opportunities and the light was perfect: sort of hazy sun. The city was alive with residents and tourists. We photographed pigs (the city has some kind of pig street art thing going, sort of like our orcas) and

horses (yes, they have mounted police and carriage rides), market activity, buskers and plaza parties, views from the piers, all kinds of people (many of them carrying flowers), flower arrangements and hanging baskets, vegetables, architecture, alleys and.... managed to fit in a very nice lunch, a coffee break (Seattle's Best, not Starbucks) and a visit to a camera store. As we climbed up and down the hills, we couldn't help but make comparisons to New Westminster...

By 5:30 or so everyone was getting a little tired so we headed back to the parking lot and paid \$26 for parking (oh, the \$7 was only for the first 5 hours...) and found our way out of the city. You can see some of the photos on the club website's Past Outings Gallery.



**Photos from left to right, top to bottom:  
Tomato, Tomato-Matti L; Gold City – Shona; Long Day- Matti L;  
Untitled – Justin B; Hoola – Tony V; Alley-Lou M; Matti and Graffiti-Peter E.**

## Upcoming Outings

### **Power House at Stave Falls**

**Oct 13, 2007**

**Subjects:** Creative, abstract, historic (including architecture) and scenic photography.  
**Logistics:** Meet at the school at 10:00 to carpool. Entrance fee is \$6 (\$5 for seniors).



Photo from District of Mission website  
<http://www.mission.ca/Page106.aspx>

**Details:** This is an authentic 1912 generating station that produced electricity for the Mission and Maple Ridge areas for over 90 years.

In the Generator Hall you can walk alongside (and photograph of course) the original turbines and generators and view the beautiful architectural details. You can play at creating electricity in the "Electrica" Gallery (creative and abstract photo ops). Outside, the penstocks are interesting subjects. There are exhibits and photo murals showing the history of power generation in the area.

Afterwards, we might meet somewhere for lunch.

### **Been there, done that**

**Nov 17, 2007**

**Subjects:** An \$8 transit day-pass and teamwork will be requirements for this transit rally. Photos of each subject will prove you have covered the assigned route, but we still expect you to show your skill and creativity!

**Logistics:** Meet at the New Westminster Skytrain station at 10:00 a.m. Meet at the end (we'll set time later) where we will view the results on a couple of laptops (film shooters... you'll have to show yours later... or hit any one-hour photo finisher on the way back.) and have dinner or a snack or coffee.

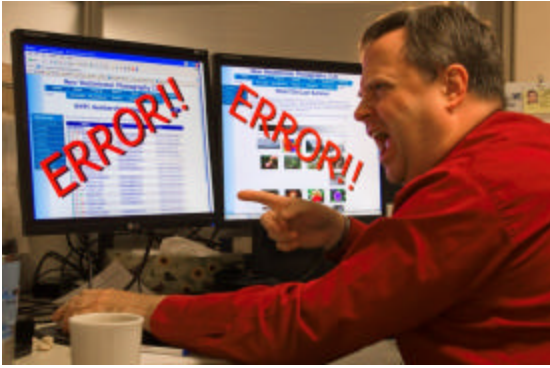
**Details:** You will draw your team, route and photo assignments at the start and, armed with a transit map, will have a set time to seek out the assigned subjects. Every team will have a different route and assigned subjects. Your pass will allow you to get on and off any of the transit options in the lower mainland to shoot your assignments, have lunch, etc. Some of the topics will be landmarks; some will be a little more challenging to find....



Skytrain Bridge over the Fraser, Dave Emery



## Website Changes By Derek Carlin



I was approached by our editor to say a few words on the changes happening to our website over the past few months.

When I accepted the role of webmaster, my initial thoughts were to “clean up” the website a little bit, make it easier for members to share their photos and for the executive to get announcements and other information out to the members.

One of the first new things I did was to ask the executive for a “mission statement” for the home page – a business-speak term that simply means “who are we and what are we trying to do”. The statement was to give our visitors a better feel for the direction of the club and, for me, an indication of the role the website should play. The statement, in my mind, says the club fosters the improvement of a person’s photography through 3 means:

- Education – our Program
- Practice – our Outings, competition entries
- Feedback – critiquing sessions, discussion, and our performance in competitions

At the first executive meeting I attended, when we reviewed the year-end feedback forms from members, one thing that stood out was how members said over and over that they liked the friendliness of the club. We were small enough that you got to actually know other members in the club and a lot of information sharing happened during our breaks.

So I resolved that any additions I made to the site had to be in the spirit of these core

values. To me the web site is a tool to serve the members of the club as well as tell the world about what we do. Ideally the web site should enhance and extend the activities that go on in the club meetings & outings and facilitate the sharing of information and ideas that the membership values so highly.

During the summer months I had a chance to talk to Peter (Program) and Shona (Outings) about activities the club had used in the past, and I latched on to one concept that I was familiar with: assignment photography. Staying with our core values, my vision was to have something that would allow us to get more critiquing and feedback on our photos, allow us to share our creativity with others, and add a bit of fun with some friendly competition (as well as practice for real competitions?).

Thus the idea for “Themes” was fleshed out as we spent about 2 months in discussions on rules, presentation and process. I pushed that the Program and Outings officers be the ones to actually come up with the themes, since they were in the best position to choose themes that would fit with the upcoming curriculum of the club and outings that might supply subject matter – and our current P & O officers also have a wealth of personal experience to draw on when coming up with challenging themes.

The Themes area is “self-serve”, members can submit their own images, comments, and votes without the need of anyone else. Non-digital shooters and people without web access are still encouraged to participate ... we will find a way to get your images, comments and votes in there.

In the long run, all media aspects of the site will also be self-serve, with members being able post photos to their galleries as well as for the outings, allowing for a greater degree of sharing. Once the initial nervousness of “all these new changes” has worn off I hope that members find these additions fun and an aid to their photography.

# What's Up with Themes

By Shona La Fortune and Peter Ellis



It has been an interesting experience administering

the club's first on-line Theme "Competition". It's more than a competition; it's an opportunity to practice your evaluation skills and get some feedback on your own photographs. As well, we set it up as a Theme forum so that you would be challenged to maybe shoot outside your normal specialty, if you have one, or to



interpret the theme within your style or preferred interest.

The first theme (What I did this Summer) closed for entries recently and entered the Voting phase, where you can no longer enter, but you can still comment, and you can **vote** for Photo of the Month (remember the cool ribbons we said you would get if your image got votes? – You can see them on the Themes Gallery (past) any time, now that our first theme has closed.)

You certainly don't have to have a digital camera or a scanner, or even a computer to enter. There are scanned slides and prints

entered in the first theme. Just ask someone – many of us would be happy to scan your slides or prints for you and send them up to the site, and to report on your comments or votes. (And that goes for your bios too – any executive member can upload your photo and bio details).

We may also try to arrange to display the Theme Entries on a laptop at a meeting for



those without computer access.

The second theme, "Blast from the Past" is open. This includes anything "old" or "vintage" or with an appearance of age, from rust to wrinkles... It's a broad topic, and you can enter 3 images. It closes October 20 and there will be a new theme opening on October 1 (and the first of every month) so check the site often to find out the new themes, comment on the entries and to see what new entries are up.

Upcoming topics may be more challenging, but you have about 7 weeks to enter each one before it closes to the voting stage.

If you have questions about the themes, contact Peter or Shona. If you have technical questions, remember most of the pages have a "help" button, or you can email Derek (webmaster).



**Colour- Grace D.; Picking Dandelion- Geneoveva**

**Theme photos: Left to Right, Top to Bottom: Delta Superport-Jason H.; Hydrangea Haze-Keith G.; Fire in the Sky-Tony V.; Lake Louise- Lou M.;**

## **References:**

Photoshop TV: Free weekly Photoshop podcasts <http://www.photoshoptv.com>

Photoshop Killer Tips: Free daily Photoshop podcasts <http://www.photoshopkillertips.com/>

## **2006-07 Executive Committee**

President: Jason Hollister

VP: Keith Griffiths

Treasurer: Tasha Robinson

Programs: Peter Ellis

Refreshment Coordinator: Grace Darney

Competitions: Fred & Joan Greaves

Website: Derek Carlin

Outings: Justin Ball, Shona LaFortune

Newsletter: Dave Emery

Special Events: Agnia Love

## **Club Key Contacts**

You can reach Jason Hollister at [info@nwphoto.org](mailto:info@nwphoto.org) or 604-518-8005, Dave Emery (Editor) at [editor@nwphoto.org](mailto:editor@nwphoto.org) or 604-517-6654; and Justin Ball/Shona LaFortune (Outings) at [outings@nwphoto.org](mailto:outings@nwphoto.org). Any of us will be happy to provide you contact information for the person you are looking for, if we can.