



New Westminster Photography Club

Shutter Release

August-September 2005



This riveting photo is by Justin Ball. For the story behind the photo, see "Lenin" this issue.

A New Year

Participate, Share, Learn & Enjoy!

Dave Emery, President

Welcome back to a new year of enjoying the joys of photography together!

This year will prove to be an exciting one for us in the New Westminster Photography Club. It will be great to see old friends who have been the backbone of the club for years. Our newer members continue to provide great new ideas. We also look forward to attracting new members from our community to ensure that we are always enjoying fresh enthusiasm.

Participate in your Club! Your officers have been working hard to prepare a full program of activities based on input that **you** provided at the end of last year. I know that

you'll be excited about the variety of diverse programs and outings in store for us!

Share your knowledge about our hobby! In addition to including talented guest speakers from the community in our program, I hope to see more sharing of talents within the club this year. Each of us has specific talents that relate to our hobby, that we can share with other members. Don't be surprised if you get a call from Pauline, our Program Coordinator, asking you to share a skill, technique or even a photographic failure (that you have learned from) with the other members this year.

Learning from other members will definitely make us better photographers!

We will continue to value the traditional photographic techniques and media that have stood the test of time, as well as welcome new ideas from an ever-changing digital world. The bottom line is that good photos and good photographic techniques aren't changing; we just have new opportunities for creativity! I hope that we can all **enjoy** our hobby with new enthusiasm this year!

2005-06 Executive

President	Dave Emery
Vice-Pres	Don Pateman
Treasurer	Grace Darney
Program	Pauline/Stew Hyslop
Outings	Justin Ball
Newsletter/ Publicity	Shona LaFortune
Competitions	Fred/Joan Greaves
Refreshments/ Social	David/Agnia Love
Phoning	Ava O'Sullivan
Website	Dave Emery

Upcoming Program

NOTE that for **September only**, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays. **Normal meeting dates** are the **1st** and **3rd** Tuesdays of each month. Any exceptions will be noted in the newsletter and on the website.

September 13

Summer project "**reflections**" to share. Bring a maximum of 10 slides, prints or digital images to show in a maximum of 5 minutes.

September 27

Part One of a two-part program on stereo photography, by Justin Ball. **Bring** a camera with any print film (a cheap disposable is fine) and pencil/paper. You will use the prints in Part Two at the next meeting.

5 Minute presentation* by Dave Emery.

October 4

Part Two on stereo photography, by Justin Ball. **Bring** your prints from last meeting, an empty cereal box (we understand Corn Flakes work best but really, anything goes), a ruler, pencil, **sharp** Xacto or utility knife (or razor blade if you like to live dangerously), and a plastic right angle from your old school geometry set. Share and cope if you are missing some of these.

5 minute presentation* by Don Pateman.

If you have questions about these workshops, contact Justin Ball. See "Contacts" at the end of the newsletter.

October 18

Members' Projection Night. Bring 2 slides/digital images for **projection** (If you're a print maker only, you'll be up on Nov. 15.)

5 minute presentation* by Grace Darney.

*The complete annual schedule (subject to change) will be available on the club **website**, or printed copies can be obtained from Dave at meetings.*

*Your 5 minutes

What is this "5 minutes presentation" you see in the program? It's your 5 minute opportunity (after the opening announcements) to show a slide set, a series of prints, talk about a technique, a piece of equipment or....?? (as long as it relates to photography.) The tentative schedule will be announced at the first meeting. Unfortunately, we have more members than available dates, so if you can't be there or really, really would like to participate and are not on the list, contact Pauline (Program) and she'll see what she can do.

Planning Ahead

Are you registered yet for the **October 15, 2005** Abbotsford Photo Arts Club Seminar? Feature speaker Michael Grandmaison. We have a few brochures or you can pick one up at most photo stores or at the library. (You will receive one if you have attended before.) You can check the club's website (www.apac.bc.ca) for information. Popular workshops fill up fast. This is still one of the great photographic workshop bargains around. **Highly recommended**

We participate in several local club or CAPA club events. Next up is the Delta Print Challenge. We had an excellent set of prints last year - let's try to move up another standing this time! Print rules will be in the next issue or available separately at a meeting.

The **Christmas Party** will be on December 6 (I know, but it's sooner than you think). Mark your calendars now and line up your guests. Dave Emery will show a program on Egypt. Silent auction as always. Not to be missed.

Outings

Justin (see "Contacts") has intriguing and varied outings planned for this season, with something to meet every request, and lots of twists to spark your creativity.

Sunday, October 2

Out-of-town day trip to the Squamish Chief and "caves" (big blocks of granite that will make you feel very tiny) and a beach which yields a wide assortment of washed up objects. Although it is a 5-8 walk to the caves, this outing is suited for those with limited mobility as there are plenty of views from around the parking area. Meet at the school at 9:00 a.m. to carpool.

Saturday, November 19

A Skytrain trip to Vancouver - Gastown and area. Meet at the New Westminster SkyTrain station (Columbia & 8th) at 10:00 a.m.

In the planning stages: Bowen Island, New West night photography and some teamwork assignments such as "Almost Famous" (see "Lenin" for an idea of this).

Our Website

www.nwphoto.org

Check out the website for the current **schedule**, outings (upcoming and past), **announcements** (linked in the last paragraph of the home page) and members' **galleries**.

As a member, you may have a page in the gallery. If you have a personal or photo business website, you may link it from your club page also. If you don't have digital images, we can scan your slides or prints for you.

If you have any announcements or notices, photos to post or questions, send them to Dave. (See contacts section in this newsletter).

Members may also have an email address (you@nwphoto.org) either forwarded to your usual mailbox or one you can set up on Outlook or whatever you use. Talk to Shona or Dave.

"Lenin"

Justin Ball

At college for the spring semester and breaking my back at a temp labour agency, I could get away growing a beard of sorts. A prof said, "You know, you look like Lenin". I arrived at a job site with a guy called David, and the foreman said, "OH GOD! They've sent me Lenin and Trotsky" (David looks like a young Trotsky). Being offered an interview at BC Ferries, I decided it had to come off, but I wanted a pic of me. I found images of Lenin on Google, found some easy ones to do. Borrowed an old suit, gathered some table lights. Shot with 100ASA colour print film and a Canon AE1 with the help of my friend Darryl. Wal-Mart processing, asked for B and W. Just upped the contrast a bit after scanning and using Photoshop. Just wish I'd found David for a shot of Lenin and Trotsky at their desk.

(I'm impressed by Justin's work taking this image from the concept stage. So many of us only take photographs that we "find" but much more challenging are the still life, arranged photos and portrait fields. I would love to feature more photos and stories in the newsletter. If you have a photograph from your past or your travels that links to a tale, send me both. I can scan your images and type your handwritten notes, so don't let lack of a computer hold you back - Shona).

Progress

Peter Ellis

As we get older, there's an easy temptation to look back and say "Ah, yes – but I remember when...".

Let's now remember (or be reminded) how things were when our club began – in 1947, when it was known as the New Westminster Colourslide Photography Club.

Hey ! Colour ! That was cutting-edge stuff then, for most photo-buffs were shooting black and white, using Kodak folding cameras or German viewfinder "miniatures". The higher-end users had Rolleiflexes or (Wow !) Pentax SLRs. Handheld exposure meters were in the gadget bags of all serious photographers. Colour was moving into the scene, with the original Kodachrome (ASA 25) for slide

makers; slow-speed Kodacolor, Agfacolor and Ilfocolor for the more adventurous print makers. Those were the days when the NWCPC consisted of four or five members.

Fast-forward to 1957 – the membership numbers were in the twenties, the club newsletter was called the Color Spotlight, and June MacDonald (who is still a charter-member) was President.

By 1959, when I first entered the picture, membership was up in the high seventies, we were a major player in the photographic community with many members winning top honours in PSA and international slide salons. At that time, the emphasis in the club was almost entirely on slide making.

It wasn't until recently, when sufficient interest was growing in showing prints and entering them in competition, that it was decided to drop "Colourslide" from the name. Black and white was becoming trendy again, slide-film costs were rising, inkjet printing was gaining ground, and the wicked word "digital" was being used by respectable people.

To some of us in the dinosaur generation these changes have shaken us in our comfortable darkrooms, and made slide-sets almost obsolete – but they have been interesting, exciting times, challenging our notions of what was "correct", disturbing our firm opinions on technique, subject matter and creativity.

Just like Rule of Thirds, the guidelines we have used along the way are there for reference and guidance, signposts on the road to a wider, freer world of photography.

Topics

Many of us have indicated a preference for the challenge of "theme" assigned topics. In addition to the "Reflections" we will view at the first meeting, upcoming topics include Harvest (verb or noun: 2 **prints due for Nov. 15** print night. **Note** this assignment was originally indicated as for slide/digital) and Airborne (2 slides or digital images **due for April 4** for members' night **and** to select for the **Fraser Valley Invitational**.)

Breaks

This year we will be circulating a sign-up sheet for volunteers to bring in the munchies for our breaks. Baked or bought, we appreciate these small donations to keep us in the black (monetarily, not coffee-wise). (The beverages, etc. are handled by the Loves, Refreshment Coordinators.)

Refreshments are complimentary to first-time visitors and guest speakers, but for the rest of us, your \$0.50/night pays for the sugar, cups, etc., so please remember to throw your change into the cup. (You're welcome to bring your own beverage mug to save on landfill waste, but you won't get a discount. You may have to pay extra if you bring a really, really big mug though.)

05-06 season dues

It was just so hard to resist using that worn-out phrase "dues are due" in the heading. But they are! Due that is -- the dues. Please give Grace your (only!) \$25 so we can pay our bills and update our members' list.

And if you want to stay a member but have run into a temporary cash flow situation, please have a quiet word with Grace.

Next Issue

I hope to be able to get the next issue done between when I get back from Saskatchewan and the first October meeting. Please send any contributions as soon as possible. Thanks.

Some key contacts

Dave Emery, President/Webmaster

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Shona LaFortune, Newsletter/Publicity

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Pauline Hyslop, Program Coordinator

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Justin Ball, Outings

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