



New Westminster Photography Club

Shutter Release



SUMMER, 2011

Editor's Chatter



Summertime, summertime.... and where oh where is Mr. Sun?!

What do you call three days of rain flanked by sunny days? A long weekend, of course.

It's summer – enjoy every day!

Shona

Wind-up

The last scheduled meeting of the club is our wind-up pot-luck on **May 31** at Centennial Lodge in Queens Park (same building as the Arts Centre), 6:00 pm (supper time). Agnia needs \$5 as usual for refreshments and decorations, so if you haven't yet paid her, bring that to the meeting. It's a pot-luck so bring something to share, whether you make it yourself or stop at the local supermarket or deli on the way over –sweet or savory it always seems to work out. And the silent auction – anything goes; it doesn't have to be photographic. Proceeds help the club pay its bills. As you know, we are on a tight budget! But wait! That's not all! You will also see a review of the winning images from the year and the continuation of Justin's multi-month trip from Wales to Turkey and back. This segment: Greece and Italy.

New Executive

At the AGM we filled positions as follows:*

President:	<i>Vacant</i>	Special events:	Agnia
VP/Program:	<i>Vacant</i>	Digital/projection:	Jim
Treasurer:	David Love	Web maintenance:	Derek
Outings:	Justin	Newsletter:	Jim /Shona
Refreshments:	Karen and Nathan	Themes:	Shona

* Because of the traditional low turnout for the AGM, we will wait for the wind-up to finalize all positions.

HUGE thanks to the outgoing executive for all the hard work they put in. We know you are not always showered with appreciation, but you really, really are appreciated!

Now you will note that certain positions are still glaringly empty (at the time of writing).

President isn't that challenging if you have enthusiasm, organizational ability, good public speaking skills, (that goes with the enthusiasm), and know all about what the club involves itself with. You have to be prepared to call executive meetings, make sure everything is getting done and sometimes there might be a tiny bit of conflict resolution diplomacy required. It's a supervisory position that doesn't take "too" much time. Past presidents include Keith of course, Shona, Dave Emery and Peter Ellis.

VP/Program works with the executive to plan the programs and then makes sure everything is in place for them... volunteers, props, etc. They also update the website with the schedule and send out meeting

reminders. Marjorie worked diligently this past season accommodating the new style program we put in place.

What you missed in May

You missed the AGM of course, and the chance to vote in those tight elections for our ever-popular volunteer positions! We had some entertainment too... a great selection of members' choice photos from the year. Much of the meeting was spent reviewing the future direction of the club, what worked and what didn't. Even if you filled out the on-line **survey**, you are welcome to contact any member of the Executive at any time if you have ideas or comments about our programs and activities. The club is about you; don't just be an audience; be a participant!

Shooting in the sun

I do recall there is something about mad dogs and Englishmen, but of course we would never profile that way today. Seriously, dogs get shots now. However, summer photographers do face challenges. We all know the recommendations to shoot in the early mornings and late in the afternoons, and that does give us warm light and beautiful shadows. It's good advice but we don't always have options, especially when traveling. As well, sometimes harsh light and shadows are just the thing for some subjects, so keep an open mind as you look around. Modern architecture is fine for any time – you can almost always find a good angle or reflection. Fill-flash is not just for portraits. You can also use it, for example, to add a touch of light to a shaded alcove surrounded by sun, or a shaded alleyway, or blossoms against the sky. You don't always have to seek realism; look for silhouettes and shadows and close-ups, rich colours and contrasts. Many nature subjects can be challenging in mixed sun and shade. Try fill flash (off camera is often good), a reflector (I use a space blanket on the trail – small and light) or some kind of diffusion (all depending on the subject(s) of course). Watch your histogram (or those little blinkies on the playback view) to make sure that you don't wash out any *important* details, and adjust your exposure accordingly. HDR fans may bracket shots (manually or automatically depending on your equipment). Some of that relies on your skill in the darkroom, er, I mean computer. You can find great shoots in any light at any time of day if you think creatively.

Crescent Beach Invitational Black and White Challenge

For those of you who attended, you will already know that we did not win. Eight clubs participated (Delta, Abbotsford, Surrey, Crescent Beach, the Darkroom Group, Richmond, Langley and us) and the highest score was 118. Our club scored 109, tied for 5th place with Langley. 4th place was Richmond with 110. (There were also ties for 2nd and 3rd). So I'm delicately trying to point out that we tied for last place. Here are our individual scores. Note that the highest scores were 22s (given to 1st, 2nd and 3rd places).

Title	Photographer	Score
Out of the Shadows	Barbara	20
Unbroken Love	Justin	20
Quiet Corner	Peter	19
Whiskey Jack	Mike	17
Yaletown Graffiti	Jim	17
Vancouver Block	Tony	16

Outing report

Six members joined the Outings Director, Justin, for the road trip north, spending the night in Lillooet, where Shona has made her new home. There are some good shots to see in the Outings section of the website. Much to Robert's disappointment, Duffy Lake was still frozen. The differences in climate and terrain offered a

variety of scenic, nature and lifestyle possibilities. Justin tries to offer one road trip a year and it appeared none of the participants regretted taking part.

Finding New Members

Justin has taken on the unofficial position of “Publicity Director” and has already spoken with reporters from the local newspapers. At the wind-up, you will be given some business cards. Fill in your name and your preferred contact, tuck a few in your wallet or camera bag, and pass them out to people who ask you about your photography or those you run into taking pictures. We can also supply a Word template if you would like to personalize and print your own. Email shona@nwphoto.org.

The Date Book

There are few, if any, club events during the summer, but watch for parades, fairs, festivals, local show & shines, etc. Public gardens are worth a visit any time: favourites include Vandusen and Minter Gardens out towards Agassiz. Agassiz and Mission race courses offer fantastic action. Manning Park is full of alpine wild flowers – usually good July-August, and the lookout point is perfect for star trails – schedule for a moonless night if possible. And if you can get away, explore every corner of your destination whether it is your “thing” or not. Try something new this summer! Just keep shooting!

May 21 to July 17 at Presentation House (333 Chesterfield, North Vancouver), “Intimate Stranger” exhibition of rare vintage photographs by Karlheinz Weinberger, documenting a youth subculture in Zurich that emerged in the aftermath of WWII. He started photographing groups of teenagers in 1958.

June 18 – ProShow Gold for Beginners (course AN100) If you’ve been intrigued by the slide shows you’ve seen presented at the club, Burnaby Showcase, etc., this course, taught by our own Derek Carlin, will give you the basics in a stress-free environment. A laptop and software are most desirable (or sign up with a friend and share?). This is part of the “Story Telling in the Digital Age” series. To round out the knowledge, you might consider:

June 25 and 26, “Slideshow Physiology” (AN101) and “Slideshow Psychology” (AN102), respectively. There are increasing discounts for each additional day you register (100, 101 and/or 102). All are held at the Best Western Coquitlam Inn, 319 North Road and run 9:15 to 4:00. More details or to enroll:

<http://courses.photoclans.net/AN101.php>.

CAPA’s Canadian Camera Conference is being held in London, Ontario **June 29-July 3**. For information:

www.capaconference.com.

The online Themes

The online themes **run all year**, so you can keep up your skills photographing and commenting on images. This year we will have an all-summer theme (6 weeks may not be enough for this one) **as well as** the regular monthly themes.

“Reflection” opened May 1 and closes June 19.

“Foot/Feet” opens June 1 and closes July 24.

“Fool me once” opens June 2 and closes **August 21** (goes all summer)

July, August and September themes open the 1st of the respective months

If you tend to forget about the themes until the final week reminder, sign in to the website and make sure that your Profile **Subscriptions** are set to remind you when a theme opens and closes.

See the website for guidelines and restrictions in general and for each theme. Contact themes@nwphoto.org (themes coordinator) if you have questions and webmaster@nwphoto.org if you experience any uploading difficulties.

****If you should happen to mistakenly upload the wrong image, e-mail the themes coordinator with a copy to webmaster, and we will fix it as soon as we can.****

www.nwphoto.org

In the summer, when the club isn't meeting, consider updating your **personal galleries**. You may have as many galleries as you like. If you set a thumbnail for each gallery, it will have more appeal for viewers. Set your galleries by date or subject or both. Why not set your **subscriptions** to alert you if another member comments on one or more of your images, whether in the member or outings galleries? (You're on your own for theme galleries). Keep these fresh; more people look at them than you might realize, even if they don't leave comments! And, you saw from the webmaster's report at the AGM that we get viewers from all over the world!

