



New Westminster Photography Club

Shutter Release

February 2015

Editor's Desk *(Shona LaFortune)*

Recently, I changed the photo on my computer desktop. I use two monitors (both pretty ancient by today's standards, and calibration? What calibration?). What is interesting is that one is brighter and less contrasty than the other, so that for any particular image, one monitor will provide more of a "wow" factor or reveal detail that really changes the impression of the photo. It can quickly show me what aspect of an image controls the impact. I'm certainly not recommending that you go out and find two uncalibrated, unmatched monitors. But it does demonstrate that sometimes playing with contrast, exposure, saturation can surprise you, even if you had a particular goal in mind.

Upcoming Meetings

February 24: In-house print workshop that will focus on small group discussions of prints we bring in for the evening. This might be a good time for some black and white print assessments? There will also be a presentation on *Unusual Points of View*, with time for discussion.

March 3: Long Exposure. Glenn Marcus will be showing us how he creates some of those fantastic long exposure images. As well, some member sharing. Be sure to have your member sharing images sent to Nathan by the end of Saturday, February 28.

March 24 – Yes, we are going to **select** our entries for both the Fraser Valley Invitational (Simplicity) and the Crescent Beach Black and White Print Invitational. Watch the website for more detail.

Outings



“**Under Water**” is our next outing, on **February 22**, to the newly expanded Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park. We will **meet at 10:30 a.m.** In the main cafeteria (on the left as you come into the building).

Pay parking (\$2.25/hr or \$6/day) is a bargain (and there's access by transit as well). Admission is a little more at \$29/person (\$20 for seniors) but you will have access to over 90,000 living creatures from all over the globe, including 30,000 species of native and exotic fish. Live shows with sea lions, whales, dolphins and oh yeah, sharks. (Disclaimer: no mermaids; image on left is for fun only).

Mark your calendars also for **March 22** for “**Spring is Here**”, a visit to the Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden. This beautiful garden reveals much beauty in nature and architecture. Chinatown itself, of course, is also loaded with colour, texture, exotic subjects and yummm, good food. Watch the website for details.

Online Themes

Closing on February 15 is “Composition: Framing”. Yes, that’s about a week away. Start framing, people.

Another big challenge, closing on March 15, is “Marsala, 2015 Colour of the Year”. I’m totally impressed that some people have already found images. This one will take some hunting, so don’t leave it for the last minute.

Here are the top 10 from the last closed theme:

Website Theme: Festive in Green, White and Red

<i>Title</i>	<i>Photographer</i>	<i>Standing*</i>
Festive Lights	Tim	9 th , 10 th (tie)
A toast to the season	Peter	9 th , 10 th (tie)
Window Whinsy	Shona	9 th , 10 th (tie)
Street expression	Shona	9 th , 10 th (tie)
Parachuting Santa	Ben	9 th , 10 th (tie)
Reflection in Red	Cathy	8 th
Think a bit	Bruce	6 th , 7 th (tie)
Dragon Dance	Karen	6 th , 7 th (tie)
Waiting to Get Festive	Karen	5 th
Glorious Winter Walk	Nancy	4 th
Winter Rose	Nancy	3 rd (21 pts)
Bounty	Nancy	2 nd (29 pts)
Ho Ho ...ZZZZZ	Brenda	1 st (60 pts)

**Note that point totals depend on the number of voters and sometimes the number of entries the votes are spread over.*



“Winter Rose” by Nancy, 3rd place. Gorgeous - Ed.

Simplicity *(Peter Ellis)*

In March we shall be selecting our club-entry images for the Fraser Valley Invitational Challenge, where this year's theme is Simplicity.

But what is meant by Simplicity? My big fat dictionary just defines it as “The fact or condition of being simple”, which isn't much help to us.

In the art world it is often linked with Minimalism, which suggests that elements of a composition – the shape, colour or location of an object in the frame – should be eliminated unless they are essential to convey the point of the image.

Perhaps we don't need to go that far but, photographically, I think it means we should get rid of the visual clutter and trivia that may complicate the message or confuse the viewer, just as too many many words in a sentence can lose the reader. For instance, if a person is drowning, do they shout “Please will someone come to my assistance” - or simply “Help”? The message is the same, but in fewer words.

In the images I've used to illustrate this, there may be details that catch the eye but the overall effect (the message) is clear.

Remember – less can be more, if you keep it simple.



Images (c) Peter Ellis

Upcoming Events

February 21: The **Pacific Zone Print Challenge** has a new host (The Darkroom Group) and a new venue (Gymnasium of the Eagle Ridge Bible Fellowship, 1160 Lansdowne Drive, Coquitlam). Judging starts promptly at 1:00 PM, and a reasonable \$5 admission includes refreshments.

March 7: The evening judging of **The North Shore Challenge**, at the Kay Meek Centre for the Performing Arts in West Vancouver, 7:00 PM. We will have an entry, so cheer us on. Tickets 604-981-6335 or www.kaymeekcentre.com for \$20 or \$22 at the door (if there are any left). Always great work to view, and door prizes.

If you plan to attend, here are our 6 entries, in the order they will appear in the competition:

Petal Peeper (Karen)
Morning Gator)
Early Morning in Tuscany (Glenn)
Dark Sentinel (Shona)
Foggy Finn's Slough (Bruce)
The Hunter (Milada)

April 4: Partial lunar eclipse. Unfortunately, you will have to get up pretty early; somewhere around 3:00 to 5:00 in the morning of April 4 should give you a view. It will end below the horizon, so if you've seen one before, you might want to just stay asleep. They are magical though and surprisingly easy to photograph.

www.nwphoto.org

the mother ship