



New Westminster Photography Club

# Shutter Release

May 2007



This year, our club marks its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in New Westminster photographic circles. So, very few of our current members will recognize the badge shown in place of the cover photo this month. Back in the mid-70's I had one sewn on a windbreaker jacket, but that badge is probably now stowed away in a shoebox, with a lot of other memories, in a bedroom closet.

Those memories were stirred again when Shona and I were asked to dispose of the late Betty McVea's photo equipment recently. We discovered (stashed away in a shoebox, of course) three bright-as-new club badges that Betty designed and had made when she was club president, in 1971-73.

It seemed right to remember her, and mark our 60 years of photographic life by giving the badge a place of honour at the head of this issue. Happy birthday, NWPC !

*Peter Ellis*

## Upcoming Program

### May 15<sup>th</sup>

In place of the scheduled Pinhole Photography presentation, Jason has stepped in and volunteered to fill the gap. He's being a little mysterious about the exact subject of his talk, but I understand it's based on his time (a working vacation?) in the Caribbean. By the time you read this, we should have a better idea of what he has in mind – stay tuned!!

### May 29<sup>th</sup>

This is the Big One! The last regular meeting of the year, when we will be deciding who will lead us, plan our programs and outings, manage our money. That's right, folks, it's Annual General Meeting time again, when we vote in the new Club Executive. You have almost a month to go over our membership list and think who would make good executive members – the field is pretty well open, starting with President, as Dave has indicated that it's time for a break, and a new Pres.

Once we get the business over, there will be an Outings Pix session. Bring two of your favourite photos (prints, slides or digital) from any of this year's outings. We won't be critiquing the images, simply admiring them, as well as whetting our appetites for more great outings next year.

# Outings

## Prior Outings - Were you there?

### Flower shoot, Burnaby Village

It was a little early for the rhododendrons at Deer Lake Park's Century Gardens, but there were plenty of early spring blooms to allow the nine or so attending members to practice the techniques and effects demonstrated in Leona Isaak's program a few days previously.

The sun was shining, allowing for experimentation with backlighting, saturated colours and fast shutter speeds to freeze the motion from the breeze. The only complaint was that the flowers grow too close to the ground, but many members took advantage of the opportunity to photograph the photographers sprawled out on the ground. Thanks, Justin, for a "Spring Break"



### "Russian Soldiers"

#### *Dave Emery*

Seven of our members, Justin, Shona, Lou, Tony, Keith, David L. and me, showed up for a creative photo outing, on a beautiful Vancouver spring day.

Here is the description of what we were in for: "In the early months of the first world war, the Russian army was large, but very poorly equipped. Soldiers were formed into groups of three, with one rifle and 5 cartridges. When the first soldier fell, the remaining 2 would take up the rifle and continue, until the next fell... Participants at this outing, will be put in pairs, issued with one camera, and a list of "targets" to shoot. Members will work together to spot and shoot, and so you can't waste your shots!"

We had to find, agree upon and shoot 39 of 41 assigned subjects with our 39 exposure one-time-use cameras. We had to find subjects such as reflections, portraits, big & small, rude fruit, old & new, black boots, and of course, Jesus and Che Guevara.



The real fun came when we had our film developed and shared our results with the other two groups over an early dinner. I'll remember the laughing and sharing our images as the best part of the day. This outing really did "challenge the eye, mind and skill of all photographers". I have a feeling that some of the other club members regret missing this fun day.

## **Competitions**

### **May 12: Fraser Valley Invitational**

Fort Langley Community Centre, 9167 Glover Road, Fort Langley. Judging starts at 7:30 pm and the club notices indicate **doors will close at the commencement of the show, and will remain closed until intermission.**

Most of our members who want to attend have obtained tickets, either through the Langley club representatives or from Peter Ellis, who arranged an order (which he received from the club and has given out). There may be tickets (\$10) at the door if there is space.

This is a digitally projected competition for lower mainland clubs. It started as a theme competition by the original Surrey Camera Club, and after several years of being hosted by Abbotsford, Langley has become its permanent host. The Langley club does a wonderful job, carrying on the Surrey CC tradition of providing catered food trays – (the food is worth the price of admission). As in the past, there will be an exhibition of their club's prints. They also usually arrange some fantastic door prizes.

The theme this year is "Power" and many lower mainland clubs will be participating.

### **May 17: Crescent Beach Black and White Invitational**

Camp Alexandra Activity Room, 2916 McBride, Crescent Beach. Doors open at 7:30; judging starts at 8:00.

The Crescent Beach club has hosted this competition for a number of years. It started as an effort to resurrect some interest in traditional black and white printing to support the use of the club's darkroom. Today, many of the images entered are digitally created, however this competition is for pure B&W images so, however created – no toning allowed!

They carry the theme throughout, from B&W awards to B&W food. Guests are asked to wear B&W also, to support the theme. More than one person last year noted I wore "cream" instead of white. They weren't asked to leave, but ... You will still be welcome if you don't own anything black.

There is no charge, so please come, enjoy the images and the hospitality of the Crescent Beach Photography Club, and support our own club entry.

## **BC Print Challenge**

After a drizzly morning, the weather on Sunday afternoon, April 22<sup>nd</sup> turned out to be sunny and warm. This might have tempted less-dedicated print makers to enjoy a drive in the country, play golf or, maybe, shoot pictures. Yet, about 50 people came to Richmond to see the judging of the BC Print Challenge, to compare their opinions against those of the three experienced judges (Val Davidson, Wes Bergen and Larry Breikreutz), and to learn how their clubs would stand in the final tally.

25 clubs entered, although not all put in 10 images, so the total number of prints entered was 184. The photographic quality of most was generally high, and the judges did a skilful job of scoring the variety of entries in the limited time. The Richmond CC should be commended for their efficient system of arranging, presenting and scoring of the event. It all went smoothly – each club was given a print-out at the end of the show, listing their entry, the points each print was awarded, and their total score.

How did we fare? Not as well as we'd hoped, unfortunately, but some of our members did very well – as you can see, Joan and Jason got a respectable 22 points each, while Justin topped the list at 23 points, with his well-known picture “Toast”.

Entry #	Photographer	Image Title	Club	Round	1	2	3	Total
19	Donald Pateman	Ice jewels	New Westminster Photo Club	1	5	6	7	18
39	Fred Greaves	On the Fraser River	New Westminster Photo Club	2	7	7	6	20
59	Jason Hollister	Trapezio Volante	New Westminster Photo Club	3	7	8	7	22
79	Keith Griffiths	Safe harbour	New Westminster Photo Club	4	6	7	7	20
98	Joan Greaves	Chrome and gold	New Westminster Photo Club	5	7	7	8	22
116	Shona Lafortune	Railcar blues	New Westminster Photo Club	6	6	8	7	21
134	Derek carlin	After April showers	New Westminster Photo Club	7	6	7	7	20
151	Justin Ball	Toast	New Westminster Photo Club	8	8	8	7	23
168	Dave Emery	Comfort	New Westminster Photo Club	9	7	7	7	21
183	Peter Ellis	Abstract - Light and shade	New Westminster Photo Club	10	5	6	7	18

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## **Places to go – things to see and do**

### **May 5th**

#### **Photo Car Rally 2007**

Enderby, BC. Hosted by the Shuswap Photo Arts Club (SPAC). The Photo Rally will begin at 9:00am. All photographers will be meeting at Belvadere Park in Enderby, which is to the right, just before you cross the bridge at the end of Main St. Further info from the events page at [www.capapac.org](http://www.capapac.org) or from John Pickard at [jpickard@sunwave.net](mailto:jpickard@sunwave.net). Car pooling is encouraged – share the fellowship...

### **May 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Fraser Valley Invitational** Digital Image Competition - See "Competitions" this issue.

### **May 19th**

CAPA- organized outings are usually well-worth attending and this one, to Van Dusen Gardens, is definitely something to mark on your calendar. Those who used the information and advice Leona provided at the club in March to shoot flower studies at Burnaby Village (and those who missed this outing) will have another chance to produce floral masterpieces.

There's much to enjoy, whether you take a stack of pictures or simply wander and admire the beautifully landscaped acres, ornamental ponds and fine views. It's a great experience, in any weather. The group will meet in the parking lot, at Oak and 37<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00am. There's a modest admission fee, and food is available in the gardens.

### **June 2<sup>nd</sup>**

This is to give you plenty of “heads up” time for an early-June event. The Surrey Photo Club, is presenting a showing of members' work, at 7:00 pm. There will be a print display, door prizes and complimentary refreshments.

The evening begins at 7:00 pm, for socializing, a little food and drink (including wine, I hear!), with time to view the prints – the digital presentation will begin at 8:00.

Tickets are \$15, at the door, and all this takes place at the Fleetwood Community Centre, 15996 – 84<sup>th</sup> Ave., Surrey.

## **The Swap Meet**

*Peter Ellis*

As I mentioned in my editorial, Shona and I were asked to dispose of Betty and Morrison McVea's photo gear, when Betty died. Taking a table at the Swap Meet seemed the practical way to do it. There were so many items - old, new, and not so new – that there was no way to guess what might sell.

The space, in the Cameron Rec Centre, Burnaby is enormous, holding around 150 tables, and the range of equipment on display is mind-boggling – from high-end film and digital cameras and lenses, to well-worn but serviceable bargains. If you knew what you needed, you could probably find it there somewhere, at a negotiable price.

Did we sell everything we took there? No, but we did come away with less than we brought, and with enough money to cover our table expenses, plus a fair amount to send on to Betty's executors. It was an interesting experience; one where you learn a lot about human nature, and how careful some people can be about spending money.

## **Looking ahead – ('way ahead...)**

### **OPAW 2007**

(Okanagan Photographic Art Workshops) in Kelowna, **August 11-13**. For novice to advanced photographers, this is a weekend of workshops. The cost for an adult is \$395, which includes workshops and lectures, wine & cheese reception, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 supper buffets. Accommodation at the Okanagan University College from as low as \$35/night – a real deal!! Brochures at the club or [www.opaw.org](http://www.opaw.org) for descriptions, registration and accommodation information.

The **AGM** for **CAPA** will be held in conjunction with **OPAW 2007**, this year – so watch for notices, and check the [www.opaw.org](http://www.opaw.org) website for more info.

### **The APAC Seminar**

This popular day of workshops has always been good value. This year it will be held on October 21 and 22 (usually the second day is a workshop by the feature speaker). There are print exhibitions, a trade show and a good choice of workshops to select from. There will be online registration this year, and brochures are usually mailed out in May and are available at camera stores and at the club. Watch the club website ([www.apac.bc.ca](http://www.apac.bc.ca)) for information as it becomes available.

## **Club key contacts**

You can reach Dave Emery ( President) at [dave@nwphoto.org](mailto:dave@nwphoto.org) or 604-517-6654 ; Grace Darney (Program) at ([program@nwphoto.org](mailto:program@nwphoto.org), or 604-463-7363; Justin Ball (Outings) at [outings@nwphoto.org](mailto:outings@nwphoto.org), Tasha Robinson (Treasurer) at [treasurer@nwphoto.org](mailto:treasurer@nwphoto.org)., Kelvin Leong (webmaster) at [kelvin@nwphoto.org](mailto:kelvin@nwphoto.org) and Peter Ellis (Editor) at [peter@nwphoto.org](mailto:peter@nwphoto.org) Any of us will be happy to provide you with contact information for the person you are looking for, if we can.