



New Westminster Photography Club

Shutter Release

October 2005



Perfect for fall, this lovely image ("Maple on Maple") by Joan Greaves was one of our North Shore Challenge entries for 2005.

Upcoming Program

October 4

Part Two on stereo photography, by Justin Ball. Refer to last newsletter or club website for what to bring, or contact Justin (Contacts: end of issue). (Also, turn in slides/digital for next meeting if possible.)

October 18

Members' Projection Night. Each member may present 2 slides/digital images for **projection** (If you're a print maker only, you'll be up on Nov. 15.) Any subject. ****Please get your **digital** images to Dave (dave@nwphoto.org) as soon before the meeting as possible.* ***

5 minute presentation* by Grace Darney.

November 1

Program: preparing slides/prints/digital for competition, by Shona LaFortune.

We will **select** prints for the Delta Print Challenge. See entry guidelines this issue.

5 minute presentation* by Pauline Hyslop.

November 15

Members' **print** night. Bring up to 2 prints on the subject "**Harvest**". Prints must be **8X10 or larger** and mounted on a firm backing. Matting is optional. No framed photos please.

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

*Your 5 minutes

If you're not scheduled for a 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), contact Pauline (Program) if you want to be on the schedule, and maybe she can fit you into an opening.

APAC Seminar - Last Chance

If you are not yet registered for the **October 15, 2005** Abbotsford Photo Arts Club Seminar you may not get your first choices of workshops, but it's well worth signing up and taking what you can get. Feature speaker Michael Grandmaison. Cost is only \$60 for the day, which gets you 4 workshops (you choose from a selection of 8 in each time period, from basic to advanced plus special interest), feature speaker, door prizes, print displays and a trade show. 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. This is still one of the great photographic workshop bargains around.

Highly recommended

Outings

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.

Contact Justin (see "Contacts" at the end of this issue) if you have any questions.

Topics

Are you working on the upcoming assignments? Digital shooters may get away with that last-minute rush, but film users need to allow processing and/or printing time! Upcoming topics are Harvest (verb or noun: 2 prints due for Nov. 15 print night. and Airborne (2 slides or digital images due for April 4 for members' night and to select for the Fraser Valley Invitational.) All the other projection and print nights are "open" topics (anything you like).

From the Mailbox

The club has received a complimentary copy of the launch issue of **C-ing Magazine**, a quarterly Canadian publication showcasing the work of Canadian photojournalists working in Canada and around the world. Varied content (they call "eclectic"), interesting stories and outstanding photography in this quality publication. If you like photojournalism, consider a subscription, only \$25 plus GST in Canada/year (4 issues). Sign up at www.c-ingmagazine.ca. Please keep the club copy at the club for everyone to look at.

Delta Print Challenge

We have received (and accepted) our invitation and guidelines. Now we need 10 prints from the club, only **one** per member. **Selection** date is Nov. 1. Bring 1 or 2 colour or B&W prints, any subject. .

Minimum *print* size - 6" X 9"

Minimum *matte* size - 11" X 14"

Maximum *print* size - 16" X 20"

Maximum *matte* size - 16" X 20"

4-ply backing; no framed prints
Film or digital; commercially or self-processed.

This means the prints have to be mounted on 4-ply matte board and matted to the print size. (Thus you could have an 11"X14" print mounted on a 16"X20" board with a matte around the print.)

The **judging** will take place **November 27** (Sunday), at 1:00 p.m. at the Long House, South Delta Rec. Centre, 1720 56th Street, Tsawwassen. Refreshments will be served and the prints will be displayed after the judging.

Editor's Thoughts

On Digital - Shona LaFortune

A short while ago, I was presenting at a local club. One of the members brought in, for possible sale, a lovely little Canon digital camera that he had never used. When asked why, he said, not without a little hostility, "I take a long time to set up my shots. I use a tripod. I don't want to just click, click, click!" I started thinking about why some people are so defensive about their film photography, and others ask the almost inevitable "Have you switched to digital yet?"

In a recent article in Photo Life magazine, Freeman Patterson suggests that asking that question is rather like being asked if you have converted to Catholicism. "Frankly, it's really nobody else's darn business." I agree. All that should matter is the photographs you create.

Now that there is no disputing the quality of digitally captured images, why are so many in both camps still so touchy? And where does this idea come from that converting to digital will make you a careless photographer?

There may be something to the quick deletion argument. In the same article, Freeman suggests that digital images are being deleted too quickly, both in an historical/archival context ("Few old family photos will be left lying around in shoe boxes to be discovered by future generations") and for personal growth. He delays editing of his transparencies for at least three months so that he has forgotten what his immediate expectations were. He says, "I

am looking for good work, rather than being critical of myself just because I didn't quite pull off what I originally intended."

He makes a good point, however, having tossed the better part of many rolls of 36 into the garbage for just that reason, I'm not sure that "digital" is the culprit.

In Peter Skov's blog (web log) Sept. 10 entry (www.iqexchange.com/site/blog/tsubame/) he says that the borrowed digital camera he uses for log entries is making him lazy with both the digital and film shots. He states: "Ease is no excuse for wasting the chance to make a memorable photograph."

Well, why can't you take a memorable photography with an easy-to-use camera? When auto-focus and auto-exposure were introduced, many defended "manual", and with some validity. Good photography is a melding of art (eye) and technique so a shortfall in either area can certainly influence the final result, but that's up to the photographer.

I have a personal shooting style (that could be described as "get the job done and get out") that sometimes results in a higher failure rate. I find I actually retain more of my digitally captured images because I can catch mistakes as I go. (Sky too bright? - I can use that graduated ND filter now rather than curse my oversight when my slides come back). And since I can't fully examine images until they're on my computer screen, that buys me some of that delay that Freeman alludes to.

Some people certainly can benefit from taking more time in exploring a subject, shooting and editing. Others seem to find a unique approach almost immediately. If you find yourself guilty of hasty decisions in the field, or quick deletion/destruction of images because they're not quite what you had in mind, an alteration in style may help you grow as an artist. But don't blame the camera.

Have you got something to say? I welcome articles, comments or questions, handwritten, typed, e-mail or whatever. - Shona

Showtime 2005

On Saturday, **November 26**, The Pacific Digital Photography Club is presenting their second annual presentation of digital AV productions with music and special effects, at the Inlet Theatre in Port Moody. Tickets are \$12 and there are door prizes and refreshments. Matinee from 2-5 and evening show 7-10. They sold out last year, so if you'd like to go, they sell tickets on their website (you can use a credit card) at www.pdpc.ca or you can call 604-421-4252.

Exhibitions etc.

Viewing the work of others can be ego-deflating, inspiring or confusing. But it's always interesting.

Nov. 1-30, "ArtShots" at the Tsawwassen Arts Centre, 1172 56th Avenue. Exhibition of juried photographs. (Deadline for entry: Oct. 7 - details in our website announcements).

Dec 1 - 14, Art Photo Club is presenting a members' exhibition of new works, at the Vancouver Downtown Library, 350 West Georgia.

Free to a good home

No, not kittens. Does anyone in the club use 120 film? I have 5 rolls of Fujicolour print and 1 Ilford XP2 B&W. Date expired but they've been kept frozen. Let me know and I'll bring to a meeting.

Jingle Bells? Already?!



Yes, we are going to remind you every issue that our **Christmas Party** will be on December 6. Great food, the always-popular silent auction, a gift exchange and this year, Dave Emery will show a program on Egypt. Feel free to bring guests. A new location this year (Centennial Lodge, Queens Park - same place as we held the wind-up pot-luck in May), cost TBA. Not to be missed.

CAPA News

The Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA) held its annual Camera Canada Conference (CCC) in Regina this September. At the AGM, Val Davidson, of Surrey, BC, was elected President. CAPA has been working to decrease its costs in light of the declining memberships that have been plaguing many photo organizations in recent years. Membership has remained stable from last year.

The conference was small, but the presenters were excellent. Andre Gallant was a featured speaker at the banquet and at a full-day workshop.

The 2006 CCC will be held in Toronto from July 14-16 with outings and workshops on either side of those dates. It's called "Summer in the City" and the organizing clubs (Toronto Guild for Photographic Art, Mississauga Camera Club, Richmond Hill Camera Club and Chinese Canadian Photographic Society) have secured accommodation in downtown Toronto for \$84/night (single) and \$94/night (double). A great opportunity to spend a few days in downtown TO at a good price **and** take advantage of all the workshops and speakers that CCC has to offer. For accommodation, call 416-977-0707 during business hours or online at www.89chestnut.com. The CAPA website (www.capacanada.ca) will have more information on the conference as the organizers firm up their plans.

CAPA's magazine has increased in quality greatly in recent years. The club only receives one copy, so we do encourage you to join CAPA as an individual member (\$45/year). If you say the club referred you, we will receive a \$5 rebate. Membership gives you some discounts on CAPA events and at some retailers, your own magazine and Pacific Zone News newsletter, and the opportunity to enter all the CAPA competitions, etc. The CAPA website has more information or phone Leona at 604-855-4848.

Paid up?

Please see Grace if you haven't paid your 05/06 dues (only \$25) yet.

Club key contacts

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