



Shutter Release



January 2017

Editor's Desk *(Shona LaFortune – editor@nwphoto.org)*

Welcome to 2017. For those of us who were around in 1967 (seriously, I still know most of the words of that silly song that was played on the radio constantly (“...one little two little three Canadians ...” - let’s hope they come up with something better ...) yup, it’s been 50 years since we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the first provinces joining together, and apparently we feel the need to celebrate again. Any excuse for a party, eh? These things do only come around every 50 years, so watch for photo ops. We are truly privileged to live here, so in celebration, we could perhaps make 2017 a year of “no whining”.

If you would like to be in Ottawa for Canada Day, to take in the celebrations for our 150th, look for the article in this issue on the Camera Canada Conference and book early. Ottawa puts on quite a show for Canada Day and I’m sure this year will be spectacular. It could be fun to combine it with photo outings and workshops, etc. and this is something you will definitely want to book early.

There are many pending due dates this month, so keep an eye on the deadlines, write them on your calendar, ask your phones to remind you, etc., and, to avoid any possibility of glitches (hey, it happens), try to get your entries in before the deadlines.



Know that feeling?

Upcoming Meetings *(program@nwphoto.org)*

January 24: In-house digital competition with a **theme: Black and White creations (recent work)**. Judging, and moderated commentary from the judges as well as club members. This is an excellent opportunity to get feedback on your work within the comfort of the club meeting. Your black and white creations (maximum of 2) must be uploaded to the Dropbox (see the club’s website) no later than the evening of **January 21**. As always, this is a firm deadline. **Submission deadlines are on the website (naming and other guidelines) as well as another good summary of subject choices and processing.**

February 7: **Guest Rick Hulbert**, an architect, urban designer and photographer, will be speaking on **architectural photography** (indoors and outdoors). Check out our website for his list of credentials and link to some of his work.

As well, we will show our North Shore Challenge entries selected by our committee. (Your entries are due January 28 – see article this issue for sizing, titling etc.)

Upcoming Outings (outings@nwphoto.org)

We have a fantastic lineup of outings coming up. Watch the website for all the details, and put all these dates on your calendars. You won't want to miss these.

January 28 for "Behind the Scenes at BC Place".

Some of you may remember the fantastic tour of Rogers Arena. This time we'll be exploring BC Place, including a trip onto the field. Whether you are a football fan or not, you won't want to miss this insider tour. **Please email outings@nwphoto.org to confirm if you plan to attend.** Maximum number is 20.

Please arrive between 10:30 and 10:45 to the meeting place at the Percy Williams statue outside the Hall of Fame and **Gate A** (do not confuse with the Terry Fox Plaza) of BC Place. We are joining the "All Access" tour at 11:00 a.m. Admission is \$20/person plus tax (if we can get 10 or more, the price is only \$13.50 plus tax). The tour also gets you into the Hall of Fame.

More detailed information on the website, and please remember to confirm your attendance.

And mark your calendars for:

February 25 for "Chinatown Walking Tour"

March 19 for "Stave Falls Powerhouse"

Visitors are welcome to attend an outing; you do not need to be a member.

Themes (themes@nwphoto.org)

Just opened, "**Wild Colours**" for your bright, zany and loaded with colour photographs. Colour is key for these. This one should be a lot of fun.

Closing on **January 22**, "**Everything's all white**", for photographs having white as the **dominant** "colour". See the theme statement for a link to some ideas, if you need inspiration.

Theme results

Here are the top 10 from the recently closed "Vintage" theme.

Title	Photographer	Standing (score)
A very good year	Michael D.	1 st (29 pts)
Studio from Times Past	Karen J.	2 nd (27 pts)
Roadmaster	Warren B.	3 rd (24 pts)
Black Beauty	Karen J.	4 th (21 pts)
Dads Country Gentleman	Deanna T.	5 th
Tunes, wheels and camera = Road Trip	Peter Eisenbock	6 th
Big Iron	Bruce F.	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th (tie)
Goldrush Express	Michael D.	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th (tie)
Corona	Debi N.	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th (tie)
Old Great Northern 182	Tim S.	7 th , 8 th , 9 th , 10 th (tie)

Two images from the recently closed “Vintage” theme. Remember to always vote for the images you think are strong and best depict the theme, even if you don’t think you have the experience or confidence to comment (yet). And be sure to take the time to view all the images and comments after each theme completes – a fantastic learning experience.



I'm on the road again © Bruce Fairman



Fisgard Lighthouse © Bill Boyd

The Black and the White of it all

Of course we all know that once upon a time in the photography world, colour was unheard of. Darkroom work (which some of you may have experienced) required skill to pull up a good print, including the contrast and colour (warm/cold) of the paper, types of chemicals and temperatures, development times, dodging and burning (oh the cute little tools we used to use) and so on. Most black and white photos weren’t “art”; they just were what was available. Think boring textbook photos, monochrome sunsets ...

Now that we have stunning digital colour, we still find that a message can often be more clearly conveyed in black and white. Perhaps there’s a hint of the nostalgia factor, but many images shine when the simplicity of their design or subject is not overshadowed by the distraction of colour.

In a few short weeks, we have an in-house digital competition, just for your black and white creations. If you are relatively new to this art form, you may be surprised to find that some of your colour photographs just don’t translate the way you expect. The old example of a red flower against green grass is a classic, where both colours come out as a mid-tone grey and that shocking colour contrast disappears. (This is why photographers, back in the day, ran around with a bunch of coloured filters.)

We have similar filters in our digital darkrooms, and many other tools available to us, so it’s all about learning what to look for and how to use the tools.

You’re ahead of the game if you start with an image that will convert most effectively. Member Brenda F. suggested [this article](#) from *Digital Photo Mentor*. It’s a great introduction, with good examples of subjects.

For software, you can use Lightroom or Photoshop (Adobe Camera Raw) or one of the dedicated plug-ins (or standalone, such as [Topaz B&W Effects](#) (free trial, then \$59.99 US) or [Nik Silver Efex Pro](#) (free) or whatever you already use and like, of course.

Later in the spring, we look forward to the Crescent Beach B&W Print Invitational, so consider this club competition a good opportunity for experimentation, critique and discussion!

North Shore Challenge Info. (competitions@nwphoto.org)

Entries for this competition (for newcomers, this is a long-running competition open to BC and northern clubs and individuals, hosted by the North Shore Photographic Society) **must be uploaded** to our website **no later than** the evening of **January 28**. You may submit up to **two** images, but note that if it's something you previously sized for our club, you will have to find the original and resize to the dimensions below.

Important

Image sizing is a little different from our club's, i.e. maximum dimensions are **1400 x 1050** pixels and be jpeg images.

Images must be titled, and uploaded to our dropbox/uploads page with both the title and your name.

Your image has to have a title, and the jpg should be named:

Your-name_IMAGE-TITLE.jpg

No images previously entered is eligible. So no re-tries to see if this group of judges likes it better than last year's . . . or the year before's . . .

Our committee will select six photographs for our entry, so there is no guarantee that any of your images will be selected. However, you may enter as an individual. Best source of information for this (procedure, cost, etc.) is the North Shore Photographic Society website: www.nspcs.ca and look for the link on the home page, or go directly [here](#). Note that the deadline for individual submissions is February 5, so if you wish to enter, you must enter something other than the two images you sent in for the club, since they can't be the same. Depending on number of entries, there is also no guarantee any of your entries as an individual will be selected, but that's the nature of competitions!

Camera Canada Conference 2017



“Come for the conference, stay for the celebration”. The Canadian Association of Photographic Arts (CAPA) and the RA Photo Club of Ottawa are hosting the conference (commonly called “CCC”) in Ottawa from June 28 to 30. They are promising a “stunning” line-up of speakers and presentations, hands-on sessions and photographic outings. As well, “unique opportunities to visit special collections such as the works of Karsh through a joint venture with Archives Canada”.

The event will be held at Algonquin College and hotel-style accommodation is available there for a special rate of \$125/night for a 2 bedroom “suite”, (with a minimum 5 night stay) or a regular \$175/night (for a minimum 3 night stay), which eliminates commuting to the conference venues.

Lots of information on the website: <http://www.ccc2017.ca/> If you click on “buy tickets” there are lots of menus of information to choose from. **Early bird pricing deadline** is **January 31**.

Deadlines and Dates of Note

January 19 The West Coast Animatographers' meeting at the New Westminster Library auditorium, 6:45 pm. You don't have to bring anything (if you would like to bring a show, check with our [website](#) for details/contact info); come for the shows, the inspiration and the learning experience. We encourage your comments. Everyone welcome. No cost.

January 20-22 Vancouver Motorcycle Show at Tradex in Abbotsford. This is all the new machines, with a couple of exceptions of vintage displays most years. Usually some really cool paint jobs. So think "shiny" and "colourful". Great photo ops . . . maybe something for the "wild colours" theme?

January 21: This evening (11:00 PM but please don't leave it that late) for entries (2) for the club's in-house digital competition "**Black and White Creations**".

January 22: The online theme "Everything's all white" closes tonight. **Don't wait for the last minute!**

January 28 is the **last day** for your submissions for the North Shore Challenge! Please go the club's Uploads page as soon as you can and get your very best images uploaded!

January 31 is the last day for the early bird special pricing for Canadian Camera Conference 2017 in Ottawa. See article this issue for all the information.

February 4: Burnaby Photographic Society **21st Annual** Showcase of slide shows set to music and a print exhibition (which runs January 29 to February 4) at James Cowan Theatre in the Shadbolt Centre for the Arts, 6450 Deer Lake Avenue, Burnaby. For tickets (\$18), contact Brian Maskell at burnabyshowcase@gmail.com, phone 604-318-9369, or visit <http://www.burnabyphotographicsociety.com/>.

February 5 is the **deadline** for submission for **individual** (not club – just if you want to enter on your own) entries to the North Shore Challenge. See www.nsps.ca/challenge/ for all the submission information.

March 4: The 33rd annual North Shore Challenge judging evening. We will have an entry, so come and cheer us on, and enjoy the range of images from clubs and individuals all over BC and the Yukon. As in previous years, it will be held at the Key Meek Centre for the Performing Arts in West Vancouver, 7:00 pm. Tickets 604-981-6335 or www.kaymeekcentre.com.

Our Social Media Links



And our website: www.nwphoto.org