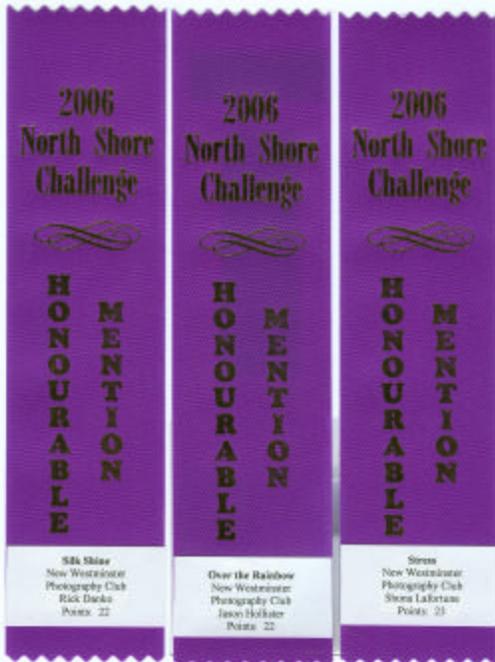




New Westminster Photography Club

Shutter Release

April 2006



Our club members achieved THREE Honourable Mentions from the North Shore Challenge. See results this issue.

Upcoming Program

April 4

Select prints for Crescent Beach Black & White Invitational. Select slides/digital for Fraser Valley Invitational "Airborne". Entry guidelines for these competitions are in the March issue and information on attending the competitions is in April/May activities in this issue.

5 minute presentation: Margaret Fellmann

April 18

Members' Projection Night. Bring two images to show and discuss. Slides may be brought in that night but **please e-mail digital images** to dave@nwphoto.org **well before** the meeting so he can arrange them in a file for presentation.

5 minute presentation: Sarah Gordon

May 2

Annual General Meeting and New Member Night! After club business and elections, this meeting will be a time to celebrate the new members that we have welcomed through out the last year. We will ask all new members to participate in this evening's program. They can do a short 5 min "show n tell" program or can merely share with us some of the photos (digital, slides or prints) that they have taken for member comments. Come celebrate the work and enthusiasm of our new members.

From the Editor

As you can see from the adjacent photo, we did very well at the North Shore Challenge, which is considered **the** photo competition of the year. I have our results in this issue. Thanks to Peter E. and Dave E. for providing me with photos and reports.

If you like to photograph flowers, this is the start of the season with cherry blossoms (try the Nitobe Memorial Garden at UBC), rhododendrons (the Century Gardens at Deer Lake Park are amazing) or tulips (Skagit Valley Tulip Festival for wide views or any public garden for close-ups). And if not, there's still plenty of snow at higher elevations.

The many April, May and summer activities are listed in this newsletter and in the announcements section of our website: www.nwphoto.org.

Shona

May 16

No meeting

May 23

Wind-up potluck. Note this is the **fourth** (not third) Tuesday of the month. At Centennial Lodge in Queens Park (same place we held the Christmas dinner and the wind-up for the past few years - and very close to where we meet now). Bring food to share (cook, bake or buy): salad, casserole, bucket of chicken, sweets.... It's a **potluck** so if we end up with 31 desserts, well... I'm sure we'll cope! Program by Peter Ellis. 6:00 pm.

Were you there?

March 7

In addition to the sharing and discussion of members' prints, this was the big selection night for the BC Print Challenge. We selected 10 prints and 2 alternates.

March 21

At one time, SLR cameras were sold with a "standard" lens, usually a 50 mm. This focal length was considered to be the closest to the view seen by the human eye. Because these lenses were manufactured in quantity, they were generally fast (2.8, 1.8 etc.) and very sharp. These were the lenses people used to learn their photography, often adding another lens when their skills improved or budget allowed. As the quality of zoom lenses increased and prices dropped, most purchasers opted for a zoom lens in the 35-80 zoom range. Now, quite acceptable "super-zooms" are available stretching from 28-200 (or even 300). The club assignment for this meeting was to bring two images shot with a "standard" 50-55 mm lens. The results were shown and discussed at the meeting. It was a good exercise in "seeing" and demonstrating the versatility of this focal length.

Outings

Saturday, April 22, 2006: Gibsons – Justin Ball, Outings Coordinator

Full day outing, meeting at Horseshoe Bay at 9am*, back by 7pm. Leave cars at Horseshoe Bay. Bring money for bus on other side. Visit 2 museums, fishing boats and wharf, Molly's Reach, various artisans. Dress in layers, might be warm, might rain, so bring a wind breaker or such. Pack a lunch for the park; buy ice cream on location...

Visit the Gibsons website for info: www.gibsons.ca.

* Ferries leave Horseshoe Bay for Langdale at 9:20 and 11:20, so you should be parked, ticketed and in the boarding area by the 9 am meeting time or you'll have a long wait. There is a bus that meets the ferry for the 4 km trip into Gibsons. If you wish to bring your car over, you may want to consider a reservation. Return ferry options: 4:30, 6:30 or 8:20. Please check for current information at www.bcferries.com.

North Shore Challenge Results

(Report by Dave Emery)

The North Shore Challenge is undoubtedly one of the largest photography competitions on the west coast. Our club entered a strong set of digital and slide images this year. On the night of the competition, 10 of our members attended the event to support our club entries and see the best 260 photos of 26 clubs across BC and the Yukon.

Judging was done by 3 professional photographers on a score of 9 points each. The general feeling was that the judging seemed quite appropriate and fair. The winning photos each scored 25 out of a possible 27 points. Three of our club images had scores above 20: Shona's "Stress" – 23, Rick's "Silk Shine" – 22 and Jason's "Over the Rainbow" – 22. Overall our club did quite well. We tied for 8th place (actually 7th according to the official results – Ed) out of 26 clubs. Well done!



"Stress", Shona LaFortune: 23 (7/8/8)



"Silk Shine" Rick Danko: 22 (7/8/7)



"Over the Rainbow" – Jason Hollister: 22 (7/7/8)



"Bog Sky" Jeremy Pawluk: 18 (6/6/6)



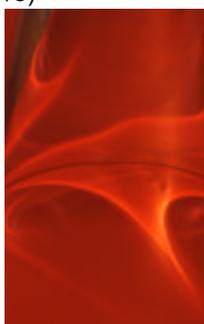
"Laid Back" Marjorie Mowers: 18 (6/7/5)



"The Boss", Matti Lagerbom: 17 (6/6/5)



"Caterpillar Eating", June Exworthy: 16 (6/4/6)



"Abstract in Red", Peter Ellis: 16 (6/5/5)



"Bougainvillea at Night", Don Pateman: 13 (5/4/4)



"Vintage Evening", Dave Emery: 16 (5/6/5)

April/May activities

April 9

Vancouver Camera Show and Swap Meet at the Cameron Rec. Centre, 9523 Cameron St., N of Lougheed Mall). \$4 will get you in. 10 am to 4 pm. All kinds of cameras, photographic equipment and accessories. The first 50 paid attendees who register can get into Lens & Shutter's free digital seminars, 12:30 (digital photography) and 2 pm (lighting for digital photography).

April 22

Club outing to Gibsons. See "Outings" for details.

April 23

BC Print Challenge

The Pacific Zone Print Challenge judging will be held at the Richmond Arts Centre (7700 Minoru Gate) Lecture Hall, 1 pm. Admission is \$5 and refreshments are served. Open to all BC clubs, it is worth attending to see the variety of print work. (Your editor is one of the judges).

May 13: Fraser Valley Invitational

We select our entry **April 4**. **Topic is "airborne"** ("carried by or through the air").

We recommend you attend, to support our club—and because they have great food - and lots of door prizes. James Hill School Gymnasium, 22144 Old Yale Road, Langley.

Tickets: The Langley club wants only group orders for tickets (which are \$7.50 each advance purchase arranged as a group order through the club.) .If not sold out, you can obtain tickets for \$10 at the door.

May 18: Crescent Beach Black and White Invitational

This is a **Black and White** print competition. We select 6 prints on **April 4** (same day as we select for "Airborne")

If you attend, they ask that you make every effort to support their theme by wearing B&W. You get to eat B&W too (did we mention "chocolate"?) and enjoy the images and the hospitality of the Crescent Beach Photography Club.

Club Elections Approaching!

Dave Emery, President

The end of the school and club year is rapidly approaching. It will soon be time to thank the club officers who have done a great job this year, and elect our new officers for the fall. While some of our officers may be interested in running for their office again, we will be taking nominations for and electing all of our officers for the fall.

At our April 18th meeting we will discuss responsibilities of each of our officers and the nomination, as well as the election process. You have seen the officers in action over the year, so think about what office you would be interested in.

Skagit Valley Tulip Festival

Shona LaFortune

At one time, this festival was scheduled for a couple of weeks and was quite accessible. It now runs for all of April and over the years, it has become far more popular, more commercial (most of the popular farms charge at least \$2-\$4/person now) and more crowded. It is still an amazing thing to visit but you need a little more planning. Most of the farms don't open until 9 or 10, long past the best light. (I don't know if their parking lots are open earlier.) The official website (www.tulipfestival.org) is the place to start, for directions, a brochure you can download, a link to a handy map showing what is blooming

where, and all kinds of information about food and accommodation. I recommend you visit on a week day if you can. On Sunday afternoons (**forget** the Easter long weekend) the roads are gridlocked! Cycling is the perfect way to get around (do watch for traffic), as you can stop along the roadways for photos. Walking works too if you're energetic and can find reasonably close parking. Since the crops are rotated, every year is different. That great field that had red tulips in front of the old barn may be left fallow the next year, but there will be a field of magenta and pink where there was nothing last year. Some recommendations:

- Use a telephoto lens to compress the perspective and show masses of colour. Shooting close up reveals a lot of dirt between the flowers.
- Backlighting really brings out the colour.
- Keep the sky out of the picture if you are shooting towards the sun or in overcast/wet conditions. The white will distract from the colour and we all know the sky is up there anyway.
- Try to find a barn or outbuilding, tree(s) or person(s) to act as the "red canoe" (centre of interest), **or** play with design with curves and hills.
- It's the wide expanses of colour that make for unique images. Close-ups are fine, but you can quite easily get those in your garden, local park or public area and avoid the border lineups.

Looking not so far ahead

Another reminder about upcoming dates for summer/fall activities.

Camera Canada Conference (CCC) 2006

CAPA's annual conference, "Summer in the City" in Toronto, **July 14-16**. The venue is downtown, there are great speakers planned and accommodation is reasonable. (Air fare, however...) Lower "early-bird" registration prices in effect until May 30. There is a link at the CAPA website, which might work if you click on the picture (depending on your version of Adobe). Otherwise, go to www.capacanada.ca.



OPAW 2006

(Okanagan Photographic Art Workshops) in Kelowna, **August 11-13**. For novice to advanced photographers, this is a weekend of workshops. The cost before May 1 (for an adult) is \$320, which includes workshops and lectures, wine & cheese reception, 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 supper buffets. Accommodation at the Okanagan University Collect from as low as \$35/night. Brochures at the club or www.opaw.org for descriptions, registration and accommodation information.

Club key contacts

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