



Shutter Release

February, 2011



Dues

The Executive has determined that, in order to cover our costs (specifically room rental) for the balance of the season, we will have to raise our dues to \$50/year. (This was discussed and agreed in a meeting in the fall.) Now, this isn't that complicated: For those of you who have already paid \$30, you need to provide Tasha with another \$20. If you have not yet paid your dues for the year (and you know who you are), dues are \$50 if you were a member last year, and \$30 if you are a new member just joining us.

Elf editorial

I, (Shona LaFortune, in case you hadn't guessed who the secret elf was) have offered to finish up the season in our traditional newsletter-a month-fashion. Contributions are welcome! However, since we have plenty of content on our website, to keep the newsletter from being a total duplication, please send **technical, how to-etc.**, to webmaster@nwphoto.org, where we have a special area for it, and it won't be lost so easily in "past issues", and send me, shona@nwphoto.org, your **stories** (reminisces, comments, short tips, shooting locations, best stores, etc.) I will continue to summarize the calendar, summarize past meetings, and post club monthly competition results.

Tempus Fugit

Ah, Latin. You have to love it; it makes everything you quote seem so profound. (By the way, Latin pronunciation of "u" is like oo as in "rude" and the g is always hard (as in "get", not "jet") just so you can appear profound **and** well educated).

But moving along, slowly, to the point of this editorial rambling (hmmm, was that redundant?)...

As most of you know, I'm planning a move out of the lower mainland and of course that requires packing. Lots of it. So here I am, cleaning out my filing cabinet to make room for more paper I will probably never need again, and I found a folder of club newsletters, from various clubs including ours, dating back to about 2001 (the rest are in the basement... I'm **not** a hoarder; I'm a collector).

In early 2002 or late 2001, we had an outing to the Labatt's Brewery. Remember it? They didn't normally give tours, so not only did we get an opportunity the public didn't, we also have photos of a building that no longer exists. The moral of that story: Do not pass up those club outings! Or any opportunity to shoot the old buildings in your own or nearby communities.

And club newsletter articles from those years? A common theme was film! All types of film. Know your film. B&W film. In-depth analyses of film including grain, how many stops it can be pushed, colour balance/saturation/shifts... best films for what light and what subjects.... And speaking of film, if you missed the news, the last rolls of Kodachrome were processed in late 2010, ending a reign that started in 1935. These slides have excellent storage longevity but not so much for projection, so consider scanning any valuable

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family photos. Apparently Kodachrome scans with some strange colour casts, so anticipate some compensation.

By 2002, there were enough “automatic” cameras around that the manual vs. “auto-everything” arguments were over, but it wasn’t long before the “digital vs. film” battles started. “Guide for exposure” articles were still necessary (today, it’s “how to read your histogram” so nothing really changes).

In 2006, one article recommended backing up your images onto DVD as “it can probably store all your images on one disk.” Some people I know couldn’t contain the RAW files from one photo shoot on a DVD.

Some of us collect old magazines, usually in our fields of interest, to see how much things have changed. In photography, the tools have changed, but the output is the same: images to preserve facts and memories, and to communicate with the viewer, to evoke emotion, make a statement or perhaps all of the above.

I’m recycling the newsletters, but I’ll be saving my photographs, even if many are on film...

What you missed

On January 18, we shared projected images of **skills** images (everything we have covered to date including black and white) and **member choice**. We started with the print competition, with a more organized sign-up procedure (thanks, Peter). Results in this issue. Although the judges did not have time to comment on the prints in the print competition, everyone was welcome to give feedback on the projected skills and member choice images.

Upcoming Meetings

The **February 1** meeting is a **Surprise Challenge**. Please **bring your camera, flash, tripod** and sense of fun and adventure!

February 15: All digital projection images (size to 1024X768). Send **two** skills (results from the February 1 meeting) images (title to include an S), **one** members’ choice image (anything you like, particularly a new technique or something you would like some feedback on), title to include an M, and **two** images for the in-club competition (any subject/technique), title to include a C. to photos@nwphoto.org by February 13 – Sunday. (February 14 is OK too, but that’s Valentine’s Day and maybe the webmaster has other plans... Have some consideration, people. No one likes last-minute pressure.)

Next Outings

The **February** outing is a full day on the **19th** and will include instruction, photography and creation of **3D** stereoviews. Stereo is all over movie theatres now; learn some 3D history and create your own Holmes format view to take home. **Meet at 10 am** at the New Westminster Skytrain station. Bring an exacto or similar knife and a good ruler, in addition to your camera gear of course. Note you will have to get a few photos printed the same day (we’ll probably use London Drugs or Walmart), so have a few \$ with you as well for that and lunch/snacks. Digital shooters may use the self-serve kiosks.

Not to be missed. Justin’s enthusiasm for this subject will have you seeing photography in a whole new way.

The **March 19** outing (yes, two 19ths in a row) is “natural light and single light nude”. A good learning workshop. Come prepared with ideas of what you would like to do as time is limited. Please see the Outings section on the website for details. We are still looking for a venue so if you have a living room or studio with natural light, please let Justin know (email below).

Questions about any outing: outings@nwphoto.org. Or call 778-891-4774.

The Date Book

Photo activities and photo ops coming up:

February 3: Chinese New Year parade starts at the Millennium Gate in Chinatown. Celebrate the start of the Year of the Rabbit. Check local media for details... but arriving early is always recommended. It's a popular event.

February 4: The Burnaby Photographic Society presents special guest speakers Dan and David Newcomb at the Shadbolt Centre, 7 pm. Check out their website (www.burnabyphotographicsociety.com) for this and other events hosted by that club.

February 5: The Burnaby Photographic Society presents their annual **Showcase**, lots of great digital AV (aka "slide") presentations. \$18 this year and if you want to go, don't delay getting tickets (Contact Lynda at kerr2000@telus.net or phone 604-433-0826. In conjunction with that event, the club has an excellent print display at the Shadbolt Centre from January 30 to February 5.

February 9-13: The Vancouver International Boat Show, at the New Vancouver Convention Centre and False Creek Yacht Club. (I would guess the in-water venue at False Creek would make for better photo ops but you never know).

February 19: Club outing. See Next Outings (above) for details.

March 5: North Shore Photographic Challenge. We will not have an entry this year, but it's a great evening of viewing photographs from clubs all over BC and second-guessing the scoring by the experienced judges. Thirty clubs have registered, and tickets may be obtained from the Kay Meek Centre website at www.kaymeekcentre.com, or by calling 604-913-3634. www.nspcs.ca

March 25-26: Delta Photo Club has replaced their November print challenge with an open to all **Delta Photo Inspirations**, with a print competition, courses, workshops, keynote speaker Wendell Phillips and a trade show. Friday is free; Saturday is \$55 and Wendell Phillips only is \$20. www.deltaphotoinspirations.com

Looking ahead:

April 17 (Sunday) has **choices**. There is the big camera "show" (more like a flea market) at the Cameron Centre. If you'd like to think about getting a table to clear out some of your older or unused stuff, now is a good time to book. They expect 120 tables and 1,000 attendees, apparently, they claim, making them one of the largest shows on the continent. From antique to modern, lots of equipment and accessories. Always worth a look. It opens around 10. Usually about \$5 or so to get in. To book tables: Saggi Rhode 604-941-0300. On the **same day**, the 25th annual **Classic & Vintage Motorcycle Swap Meet and Show 'n Shine** at the South Delta Recreation Centre. Great **photo ops** whether you ride or not... some unique bikes and if you just hang around outside, no charge. **And wait, that's not all!** It is also the date of the Pacific Zone Print Challenge judging in Richmond, at the Arts Centre Lecture Hall, starting at 1:00. Admission to that is \$7.

June 29 – July 3 – After missing a few years, CAPA's Canadian Camera Conference will be held in London, Ontario this year. The official website is www.capaconference.com.

Our Club Themes

This is strictly a website competition and any member may enter three images in each theme (you may upload your entries yourself), comment on images any time during the competition or voting phase, and of course vote for the Photo of the Month (for the honour of being on the home page for a month **and** getting great virtual trophies next to your name on your profile page). Good inspiration and exercise in interpreting the monthly themes. Contact themes@nwphoto.org if you have questions and webmaster@nwphoto.org if you experience any uploading difficulties.

Current themes:

“Flight” closes February 20.

“Dreams” closes March 20.

In-club Competition Results

There were 16 prints entered in the January competition. In the spirit of the month’s theme, most of the images were black and white. Scores are as follows (in order of registration):

Mike G.: O Canada (18), First Contact (20)

Robert J: Bad Mountain (15); Oh No (14)

Shona L: Woods (20); The Visitor (19)

Peter E.: Silver Leaf (23); High Tower (23) (**tied for 3rd place**)

Jim F.: Mining Truck (20); Simon Fraser (19)

Keith G.: Thirteen (24) – **2nd place**; Rainbow Crossing (25) **1st place**

Karen J.: Boat House (20); Woman Sweeping (19)

David L.: Intermission (17); Pattullo Sunrise (18)

Scores are out of 30 (10 per judge). Our club competitions are more to keep us used to the types of images that do well in camera club competitions. Those are not necessarily the same images that might show well in a gallery. Don’t take your scores too seriously, but feel free to talk to some of the more experienced members, **or**, even better, show the image as one of your “member’s choice” images at a future meeting, and ask for some feedback.

February shooting

February weather on the coast can be all over the map: from early bulbs to snow. For nature shooters, watch for the first signs of leaves and early flowers. Waterfalls are everywhere where the water is high. Head up towards Agassiz or along the Sea to Sky for some nice variety just off the road (but park safely). Night shooters: the days are quickly getting longer so get out while the weather is mild but before you have to be out at ridiculous hours to see dark. Town centres are usually good, especially in the rain, or anywhere on the water, depending on your choices of subject of course. Roads are usually good to the ski hills where you might still find some nice snowscapes. And of course check Date Book for possible events.

www.nwphoto.org

Our club’s great site and you can make it better!

Next issue

Submissions anyone? Share those coffee-break ideas with everyone.