



Shutter Release

September 2016

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

Welcome back, everyone. And for visitors and new members – welcome! We're looking forward to a great season of photographic activities. Thanks for joining us.

I happened to be looking for some information from a back issue, and came upon the August-September **2005** issue of Shutter Release (which I also edited . . .) At that time, our dues were \$25, and of the **Executive** members, Dave Emery, David Love and I are still members (we have other long-time members who were not on the Exec of course). We implemented our "Five Minute Presentation" member programs that year, and we were still using slides. We were entering CAPA (Canadian Association for Photographic Art) nature competitions. Continuing to browse into the past . . . at the start of the 2006-2007 season, we raised our dues to \$29. At the start of the 2011-2012 year, our dues were \$45 (yup, \$10 more than they are now, to cover the expensive rental of that year's meeting place). At the beginning of the 2012/13 year, we introduced the new club logo (the camera that you see at the top of the letterhead). And we dropped our dues to the \$35 they are today.

And this is a good place to remind you that many of our club activities are recorded on the website . . . outings, including photos, back to 2003, meetings and theme entries from 2007 forward, newsletters from 2003. . . It's worth taking some time to browse . . . there's lots of inspiration there, and some reminiscing, if you've been with the club for a while.

How about some "Looking Back" excerpts in future issues?

Meetings

September 27

You never want to miss a meeting where we have a guest speaker, and for this meeting, we welcome Kerri-Jo Stewart on "Preparing for Competition". As a national and international competition winner, she is well qualified. Check the "Upcoming Meetings" section on the website for more information.



"Fall" (c) Dave Emery, from the October, 2007 outing to Stave Falls Power House

Meetings, cont'd . . .

October 4

A packed agenda you won't want to miss – our first digital in-house competition with a theme “My Recent Work”. With feedback from the members, it's an excellent opportunity to practice in the field of photographic competition. Of course you will have all those tips from Kerri-Jo, from the previous meeting, to use as guidelines for your entries. Have fun and good luck! Sizing and file naming requirements, as well as the drop-box link for your entries, are on the website in the Activities/Upcoming Meetings section.

And that's not all! – we'll be launching our 3rd Annual Editing Challenge, where you select from some pre-selected, “not-so-wonderful shots”, and edit them in any way you like. Results will be revealed on November 22. For those who might have to miss this meeting, details will also be sent by email.

Outings (outings@nwphoto.org)

Join us on the afternoon of **September 17** at **Lighthouse Park** in West Vancouver, to catch that lovely light (or maybe misty light, depending on weather) and the many interesting subjects on the rocky seashore. And for those who haven't been there, yes there's a lighthouse (close to the parking lot but a steep climb back up), as well as first-growth Douglas Fir, views from the various points, and lots of interesting shoreline. We may meet beforehand or afterwards at Trolls in Horseshoe Bay. Meeting time is no later than 3:45 so we can start our walk at 4:00. Please RSVP outings@nwphoto.org, if you plan to attend, so we can arrange carpooling and reservations. The website has driving and transit instructions, as well as information about the park.

On **October 8** we're taking in the Fort Langley Cranberry Festival as well as the sights in this picturesque village. Meeting time is 11:00 AM at the entrance to Fort Langley. Again, please RSVP Nathan at outings@nwphoto.org so we know how many plan to attend.

Themes (themes@nwphoto.org)

One of these is not like the others . . .
Welcome to the latest theme “**Out of place**” where you can search and photograph (or stage!) something that is out of place or that doesn't belong. This theme started September 1 and **closes** on October 16. Think that's lots of time? - remember, you have to hunt for this one. Should be fun.

Still open, but **closing on September 18** is the lovely theme “**Cloud(s)**”. So many options . . . what seems like a simple theme turns into quite a challenge.

For all themes, be sure to read the statement before submitting your entries. Don't just go by the theme title.



Coast moon (c) Bruce Fairman, one of the great entries for the “Monochromaia” theme.

Theme results

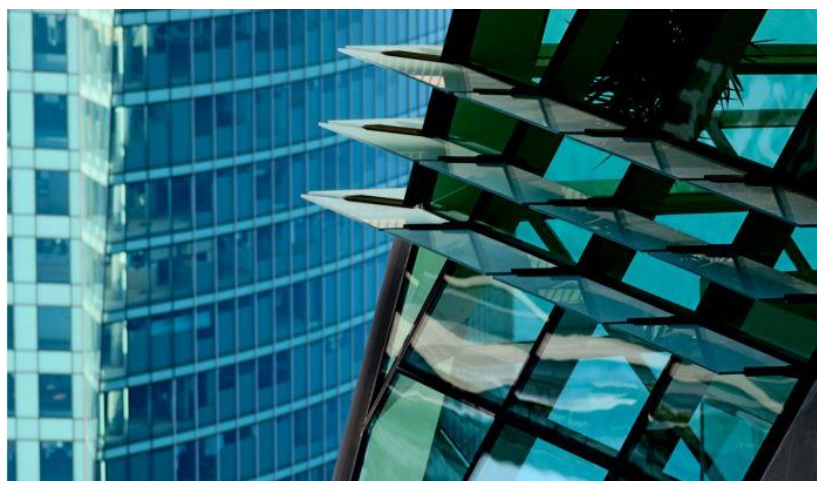
Here are the top 10 results for the themes that closed during the summer (cont'd next page):

Monochromania

Artist	Title	Rank
Nancy	Serpentine	1 st (37 pts)
Tim	Blue Clusters	2 nd (33 pts)
Shona	Misty moon	3 rd (26 pts)
Bill	downtown water	4 th , 5 th (tie)
Bruce	Coast moon	4 th , 5 th (tie)
Milada	The waves	6 th
David P.	Metropolis	7 th , 8 th , 9 th (tie)
Brenda	Crystals of the Abyss	7 th , 8 th , 9 th (tie)
Tim	overdue bathroom renovation	7 th , 8 th , 9 th (tie)
Alberto	Monochromania1	10 th (tie)
Shona	Whole lotta pink	10 th (tie)
Brenda	Brown Is The New Black	10 th (tie)

Glass

Artist	Title	Rank
Nancy	Fire in Murano	1st (35 pts)
Garfield	Pickled	2 nd (27 pts)
Karen	Bottles, Top and Bottom	3 rd (22 pts)
David P.	Windows	4 th , 5 th (tie)
Tim	Tower of Glass	4 th , 5 th (tie)
Nancy	Venetian Glow	6 th , 7 th (tie)
Nancy	Lit from Within	6 th , 7 th (tie)
Garfield	Harmony with Glass	8 th
Tim	"Glass" Bubbles	9 th
Glenn	Three Ink Wells from the Past	10 th



Windows (c) David P., from the "Glass" theme

Metal

Artist	Title	Rank
Christina O	Coppery	1 st (tie) 27 pts
Glenn	Hull Textures Swiftsure Prince	1 st (tie) 27 pts
Bruce	Architecture as Art, Art as Architecture	2 nd 15 pts
Bruce	Patullo	3 rd (tie)
Bruce	All Aboard	3 rd (tie)
Christina	Open the hatch	4 th , 5 th , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th (tie)
Nancy	Ancient Plumbing	4 th , 5 th , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th (tie)
Ben	Gold – Fire Assay	4 th , 5 th , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th (tie)
Brenda	Rusty Rings	4 th , 5 th , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th (tie)
Tim	Brewery Manhole Door	4 th , 5 th , 6 th , 7 th , 8 th (tie)
Nancy	Colourful Rolling Stock	9 th
David P.	Hot metal	10 th (tie)
David P.	Autopsy tables at the old morgue	10 th (tie)

Photocache Outing (Report)

We had a great turnout for the last summer outing, including several visitors.

Armed with GPS devices, we were sent out with some clues (to narrow the search in case the GPS signals weren't totally accurate) to a series of locations. At each spot, we could photograph what we liked (and those variances in what and how we all see and shoot made the results most interesting).

Do check out the Outings Gallery for some results. It was a gorgeous sunny day. Some visitors without GPS managed to find most of the spots just using the clues – impressive! This is the 2nd year for this fun challenge.

Extra special thanks to Derek, who did the scouting, clues, technical work and those awesome little books (see pocketmod.com if you'd like to make your own) we could tuck into our bags. I don't need to remind you that our Outings are an amazing way to increase and vary your photographic repertoire (from styles to stock) and a perfect way to get to know some of your fellow members as well.



Best view point, (c) Milada D.

Good Read

Most of you (except perhaps some of our newer members) know that our club is a member of the Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA). CAPA is divided into “Zones”, and we are part of Pacific Zone. Each zone has an independent board and administers its own finances, activities, etc. Pacific Zone puts out a quarterly newsletter, although I think it’s closer to a magazine than a newsletter. It contains announcements of local CAPA events (note that some are for individual CAPA members only) and some very good articles. And you don’t have to be an individual member to read it. Current and back issues are available on the CAPA Pacific Zone website here:

<http://capapac.org/pzn.htm>

Is it Finished?

Artists, particularly those working in traditional media such as paints, sometimes have a difficult time deciding when a piece is done, adding one more little bit of colour here, and adjusting a shadow there . . . I have started a piece with a few lines and, when I started to fill in details, realized that the power was all in the lines and now it’s lost. Yup, that “simplicity” word again. Starting with a few lines in a painting, you have to decide where to stop. In photography, you have the potential to start with a lot of detail and work down to the “essence” or message. Simplifying this way often results in a powerful photograph. On the other hand, there are powerful images that look “busy” but that is the message in itself. Another box to open is digital manipulation. This is also an arena where often “less is more”. Cranking that digital “filter” up to 100% creates some weird effects, but that only works if the weird effect says something other than “I have a new toy” to the viewer. If everyone knows what technique you used, it’s maybe too much. If the reaction is about the technique (“How was that done?”) rather than the message (“That really says “stormy” to me) then it’s maybe too much.

Ultimately, we are the artists and we can stop when we want. But a very effective way to gauge whether our message is being received is to test it out on our peers.

“Member sharing” evenings are a good opportunity to ask for feedback and opinions “Hi everyone – I brought out the orange on this boat but now I’m wondering if it’s become too much about the colour and not enough about the mood and texture. What do you think?” Or “Is this too crazy?” and so on.

On our competition nights (projection (which we call “digital”) and print), your work is evaluated before you have an opportunity to explain anything. That is also a good test for whether your message is getting through to your audience, and just great practice overall.

Don’t forget the “themes” for an opportunity to practice your work. If you are competitive, upload one or two of your best shots that you think also represent the theme, but if you are curious, make one or two of your entries something that you are experimenting with, and see what people think.

Finally, if you are looking for feedback, you can post images to your own galleries on our site and then request a comment. These images, from whatever gallery you post them into, will show up under Photos/R.F.C. (Requests for Comment). Logged in members can comment. Don’t get discouraged if comments are slow to come in; new website features sometimes take a while to catch on.

And, as we’ve stated before, **you** are the final “**judge**”, so consider others’ comments carefully before you change anything in your photos, especially anything that you really like.

New Features?

There were some good suggestions from the year end survey. For those who offered to write articles- **don't wait to be asked** (oh yeah, since the surveys were anonymous I can't ask you individually anyway) so just send away. editor@nwphoto.org Word, text, open office . . . anything but pdf which I can read but not edit. Review a store or a digital "filter", a book or magazine, send a "how-to"; all welcome!

Someone suggested a "**For Sale or Wanted**" column. Not a bad idea, although if you have items for sale, you might also bring a sheet or announce them at the meeting. They might go that night! But by all means, send me something and I'll publish. Issues are (more or less) monthly, usually shortly after the first meeting.

Deadlines (oh yes, do write these down)

September 18 is the closing date for the online Theme "Cloud(s)".

September 25 is the last day to **vote** and **comment** on "Cloud(s)"

October 1, at 11 PM is the last chance to submit images for the October 4 in-house digital competition.

October 16 is the closing date for the theme "Out of Place".

Events and Photo Ops

September 10: Langley Good Times Cruise-in, a huge show & shine in downtown Langley from 8-4. All proceeds go to charity. Free parking at Kwantlen (hwy 10 and Glover) with a shuttle (\$2). Endless opportunities for classic and classy vehicle photos, and people shots.

September 17 – Afternoon club outing to Lighthouse Park in West Vancouver.

October 8 (Thanksgiving weekend) club outing to the Fort Langley Cranberry Festival.

October 22: The 39th annual APAC (Abbotsford Photo Arts Club) Seminar, with Darwin Wiggett and Samantha Chrysanthou presenting "The Visionary Photographer", "a full-day seminar on photographic creativity and artistic discovery". At the Michael J. Fox Theatre, \$105 in advance or \$120 at the door. <http://www.apac.bc.ca/Seminar%202016/Index.html>

November 12: The Pacific Digital Photography Club presents their annual **Photomotion** (a juried selection of slide shows set to music) at the Inlet Theatre, 100 Newport Drive, Port Moody. Matinee at 2:00 and an evening show at 7:00. Tickets \$15 from www.pdpc.ca or Elfi 604-929-7860.



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