



The Viewfinder

Newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society

Write to us or send your stories to us ppsviewfinder@yahoo.ca
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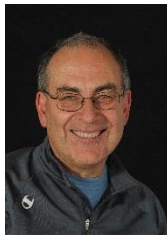
Editor: Ed Schroeter

February 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE BY GEORGE DIMITROFF

Joy With Bloopers!

Hello PPS!



"The aims of the Society shall be to encourage and develop the skills and increase the expertise of the members in photography and provide fellowship and support for people with similar interests".

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The question I have for you this month is whether you can still have joy in photography when your day is full of bloopers. Have you ever had a blooper? I think I've had them regularly going back to early family days. Do you remember those days when cameras came out on special events. As a young enthusiast, my family had a Kodak with which I enjoyed documenting really exciting events like birthdays and Christmas! The extended family would gather together, someone would remember to take a picture and out came the Kodak with film and flash bulb ready. Everybody would pose, the photographer would yell "Say Cheese" and everybody would grin and blink.... and the darned flash wouldn't go off!!! This would be followed by nervous laughter and lots of cursing and the hosts would scurry around looking for spare batteries. Happened every time. Do you remember waiting weeks until the roll of film was used up and developed? Going through the prints or slides and sighing when heads were cut off or people were crooked? I don't know about you but my history as a photographer was full of bloopers.

Ahh, the digital age! Our first digital camera was expensive and produced tiny jpegs. But it meant that the photos were instantaneous and you could easily make the bloopers go away and pretend they never happened. Unless, of course, it was your daughter's graduation at the University of Victoria in a beautiful auditorium and beautiful ceremony but the light was so low that most photos were fuzzy. Hmmm, why did this happen?

Continued on Page

President's Message by George Dimitroff
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We invited Brian Crangle over to solve this dilemma and he kicked started a DSLR revolution with the ominous words "your little point and shoot can't do what you want it to do". So, the search for a decent DSLR began, not knowing it would culminate in an expensive Nikon revolution. Ahh, a proper DSLR with dozens of dials and buttons and a 500 page manual. This technical wonder should herald the end of bloopers!

What do ya think? I remember one evening in Cuba wandering past a beautiful fountain. Big shot photographer thinks "I've heard about bracketing. I should try it with this statue and then compare the pictures when I get home." The next morning we leave for a beautiful photogenic day on a catamaran with varied interesting subjects, both human and wildlife. Great pictures, if you consider every 3rd one is underexposed and every 3rd one is overexposed! Guess who forgot to turn off the bracketing? Our oldest daughter's wedding faced the ocean with full sun. This enthusiast thought it made sense to use a polarizing filter and it indeed helped. But what about the rest of the photos of the indoor reception underexposed when taken through a polarizing filter the rest of the evening! We were having our final dinner next to the Grand Canal in Venice. I finally got up the nerve and handed my Nikon to a stranger dining at the next table. He was happy to take the ultimate photo of Sheila and I together in front of the bridge and canal. When I got home I noticed the forks and knives were in perfect focus but Sheila and I were blurry. Oh joy! Finally this past weekend our ancient cat was posing in front of the fireplace and I got down to take a warm beautiful shot of her; really a "wake shot". Well, guess who was using the remote the night before which meant the shutter did nothing and guess who left the room by the time I figured it out! Laugh Out Loud!!! Or when we experienced a rare lighting storm over 11 icebergs at 10 pm at L'Anse aux Meadows, but my tripod was in the car and thousands of black flies blocked the way!

I think we take away a few things from these strings of bloopers. First, when you look back they are kind of funny. You might feel like cursing when in the middle of them but they are funny after the fact. The next thing to note is that everybody has these. I wrote this in a way so that you could relate to it and say to yourself "You know what? I've done these too". If you haven't messed up like these examples, you must have a lot of horseshoes hanging around. I think it's part and parcel of our developing photography that we will have bloopers, even with digital technology.

Can you still feel joy in the midst of bloopers? The answer is a resounding yes!!! There is so much good that happens with our photography that it would be great to have short memories and forget that these bloopers ever happened. Except of course when we need a good story to share around the dinner table or at the next Outing get-together. Perhaps if we keep our bloopers in context and realize that they will happen and that we can relax and enjoy the funny stories, then maybe we can focus more on the positive emotions of the non-bloopers or the things that work. Remember the public speaker who focused on the positive faces and ignored that one crabby face in the audience. Those positive faces gave the person energy and confidence and the same thing can happen with your photography. Laugh at the bloopers and get back to enjoying life with your camera. This really is a parable about life, isn't it? If only some of the bloopers in our lives were digital files and we had a life event delete button, it would be convenient. Since we can't erase all bloopers in our lives or from our photography, at least let's learn to handle them with grace and move on to the real Joy of Photography!

TECH TALK BY BRIAN CRANGLE

Wide Angle Lenses



At the January meeting a question was asked concerning the use of wide angle lenses. For several years now I have been using a program called DxO Optics Pro 8. (Version 10 is now available.) The program identifies the camera body and the lens used and then prompts you to download correction software applicable to each one.

In the images shown below, a Nikon D90 and a Sigma 8-16mm lens (not fisheye) were used. As you can see in the “after” image, the curvature is removed from the photograph. From here it can be further processed with any program you wish. You can also batch edit as many images as you like and the program may also be used for further editing.



before



after

PROGRAM NOTES

BY MARGARET HAMILTON AND LYDIA DOTTO

February Guest Speaker: Cydnee Hosker



You do not want to miss our February meeting!

Our guest speaker will be Cydnee Hosker. She has been working in art education in the Peterborough area for 30 years.

Although she has primarily been involved in secondary

school visual arts education, she has provided workshops in the community and has taught at Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Cydnee considers herself a painter. She has been a part of several group and solo shows in the area and has exhibited her work at various cafes, shops and galleries including ARTSPACE, The Art Gallery of Peterborough and The Hamilton Gallery of Art.

Eight years ago, she found herself standing at the front of a photography class for the first time. Although it was a challenge, it quickly became a labour of love. The result of this new found relationship sparked her fascination with alternative photographic processes. The cyanotype, pinhole, caffenol, and polaroid transfers are some such processes that enable a seamless connection to other avenues of expression through image manipulation and the fine art.



PPS Rings In New Year With Award Winner Arnold Zageris



PPS started the new year with a fascinating presentation by member Arnold Zageris, an accomplished professional photographer with many credits to his name. Many of Arnold's images hang in public and private galleries

and he has won numerous awards. He published a photo book called "On the Labrador" and has another on Antarctica scheduled for 2015.

Arnold regaled us with entertaining tales of his adventures shooting in the rugged wilderness of Labrador, a place that most photographers have never seen and never will. And with good reason: the amount of effort and skill it took to accomplish these expeditions -- not to mention dealing with the dangers -- was mind-boggling.

He carried a 12-gauge shotgun for protection and was "always looking out for bears." He nearly came to grief in a seaside cave that started filling with water. He filled his socks with rocks to stabilize his tripod and used more rocks to keep his tent from blowing away. (Fortunately, Labrador has a lot of rocks.)

Between dodging polar bears and contending with fierce winds and wild waters, he managed to take some of the most amazing landscape pictures. He has visited Labrador 16 times, shooting initially with film and a 4x5 large format camera. Shooting with this equipment forced him to be "more thoughtful" before pressing the shutter button, he says. In those days, he notes, "if I got seven to eight good images a year, I was happy."

He's since added digital equipment to his arsenal. He said he likes digital photography but still shoots with the 4x5 camera and maintains his thoughtful shooting habits, trying to avoid the "gotta run" approach that can happen with the ease of digital shooting.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

BY SUZANNE SCHROETER

Monthly Meetings Will End by 9:30 PM



At its meeting of January 6, 2015, the executive board of the Peterborough Photographic Society reviewed the content of club's monthly general meetings and concluded that its meetings just keep on getting better.

Some of the signs were lots of good engagement in the room, while breaks seemed to have more energy and members interacted more.

During the review, the board decided to make a few more changes to the meetings to improve the experience even further for members:

- try to have a mobile handheld microphone at each meeting
- ensure that the meeting finishes by 9:30 PM

To make sure the meeting ends on time, the board tweaked its monthly meeting format. The board decided to get to the main speaker more quickly by shortening the introduction and the executive member updates. It was agreed that the executive should be using the Bulletin Board more frequently to communicate information.

The meeting format will now be as follows: a short introduction and welcome, guest speaker, break, club business, and the slideshow.

The executive also decided that there were too many images being shown. It voted to reduce the number of images to be submitted in each of the two Outing categories from five (5) to three (3) and inform the membership as soon as possible.

Macro Workshop & Program Theme Switch

Terry Carpenter will be running a macro photography workshop for club members in mid-March.

Further details will be announced at the PPS general meeting on February 3.

In order to allow club members who take the workshop to put their new knowledge to work, the club has decided to move the "macro/close-up" slideshow theme to April and switch the "speed" theme to March.

February Program

Guest Speaker:
Cydnee Hosker

Tuesday February 3, 7:15 PM,

Lions Centre, 347 Burnham St.
Peterborough ONT K9H 1T5.

*** New E-mail for PPS Image Submissions ***

All image submissions for the various member slideshows should now be sent to:

ppsimages@peterboroughphotographicsociety.com with same labels as before. See Page 9 of this issue for details on labeling your images.

Theme Challenge Photographs

February: white on
white

PPS 2014-15 "My Best Scenic Shot" Contest Deadline Approaches

The deadline for the annual PPS Photo Contest, "MY BEST SCENIC SHOT," is only three months away. It is April 7, 2015.

There are some changes to the contest this season by adding a theme, "MY BEST SCENIC SHOT." The change is designed to "give you something to shoot for." Most people shoot some scenes at one time or another, so the theme shouldn't be an obstacle. Only digital images taken between Jan. 1, 2014 and March 31, 2015 may be submitted.

The new guidelines are published in this edition of *The Viewfinder*.

The Viewfinder: Founded 1982

The Viewfinder is the newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society. It is published 10 times a year from September to June.

The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for size, content, and style without consultation.

However, all content remains the intellectual property of the creators and is copyright by them. It may not be copied, reproduced, printed, modified, published, uploaded, downloaded, posted, transmitted, or distributed in any way without the Artist/Photographers written permission.

THE OUTINGS COLUMN

BY DAVE DUFFUS

January Outings



Our successful January outing was to Allan Gardens in Toronto. We decided before we left that due to wind and cold temperatures we would not go to the Riverdale Farm.

Five members went on the outing, and we had a great morning.

Paul and Dawn Macklin left at noon to do their own thing, while Lydia Dotto, Gord and I stayed until after 1pm. There was still a Christmas theme evident around the Gardens and a great variety in plants to shoot.

As it got closer to noon, a lot more visitors began to arrive -- lots of families -- as well as a few street people looking for warmth. There were a number of other photographers taking advantage of the indoors as well.

You can get further information by emailing me at: outings@peterboroughphotographicsociety.com.



P.P.S. MY BEST SCENIC SHOT PHOTO CONTEST 2015

**ONLY DIGITAL IMAGES TAKEN BETWEEN JAN 1, 2014 TO MARCH 31, 2015
MAY BE SUBMITTED**

Contest is open to paid up Peterborough Photographic Society members only.

One image only may be submitted by each member.

Please leave meta-data attached to image.

Meta-data may be viewed to comply with the above time frame.

Your submitted image may have been previously shown at P.P.S.

Judging will be by qualified non members of P.P.S. None of the judges will be aware of the photographer's name or the circumstances of the photograph. Judging will be based on technical excellence, composition, originality, and overall impact.

Prizes to be announced.

Deadline for submission April 7, 2015 night of P PS meeting

**CATEGORIES ARE NOVICE PHOTOGRAPHER AND
EXPERIENCED PHOTOGRAPHER**

The category you enter will be decided by yourself using the guidelines below.

First, second, third and honourable mention winners in each category will be announced and their images shown at the general meeting on May 5, 2015.

Your image must be sent as a JPG. In 1024 x768 pixels.

Type My Best Scenic in the e-mail subject box.

In the e-mail text include your Name, Title of photograph and the Category.

Please send to:

mybestshot@peterboroughphotographicsociety.com

CATEGORY GUIDELINES

Novice Photographer – New to photography or may be one who uses the basic or auto controls of their camera and is gaining knowledge in photography and wishes to learn more.

Experienced Photographer - A person with more advanced knowledge of photography and has a more intimate understanding of their equipment and the art of photography.

POETRY CORNER (WORD PHOTOGRAPHS!)

Chickadee Hideaway

by Murray Palmer © 2015

On a cold January day in the Woods of Macklin
 When the trees felt the blast of frost a-crackling,
 A resident sprite of a bird with a handsome bib and cap
 Paid little attention to the occasional whine and snap.
 He looked like a ball of fallen snow, feathers inflated,
 Before starting to restore his fat reserves to levels elevated.
 While he lowered his temperature each night when roosting,
 He shivered in a controlled way, his body thus boosting
 His chances of survival when the safety margin is slight.
 Most people wouldn't appreciate this day to day plight.
 The chickadee ventured close to the house to see a feeder
 Whose cage was stuffed with boughs of pine and cedar.
 Chickadees are curious and intelligent, so he slipped inside,
 And found a cozy place where he could eat, nap, and hide.
 Paul had earlier dismantled an outside Christmas decoration.
 Now he and Dawn share moments of fun and fascination
 While watching the events at their chickadee hideaway -
 But whether the bird spends the night, they can't yet say.
 I never tire of hearing of people's kind gestures to birds;
 Perhaps you, too, had an episode that challenges words.
 Winter is a canvas upon which life's drama is written ...
 Animal tracks' and signs' meanings will leave you smitten.
 Nature fills an observer with intrigue, mystery, and more;
 You just never know what unfolds beyond your patio door.

Murray Arthur Palmer, 2015.



Fourteen members of PPS took in the club's "Photoshop Elements" workshop hosted in mid-January by Ann and Fred Norton. — Photo by Paul Macklin

BUY & SELL



For Sale:

Canon EF 70-300mm f/4-5.6 IS USM zoom lens
 Sparingly used and well cared for. Asking **\$400.00** for this item.
 Anyone interested in this lens please contact: Rick Page at: 705-772-6000.

* * *

Nikon D3100 Digital SLR with nearly new 18-55mm lens
 14.2 MP DX Format
 Auto Focus and Vibration Reduction
 UV filter and circular polarizer filters
 2 batteries and charger
 Like new condition. **\$500**

Nikon AF-S DX 55-300mm Lens
 Super Telephoto Lens with Auto Focus and Vibration Reduction
 Hoya circular polarizer filter (worth \$100) plus UV filter. Lens hood and end caps
 No marks or scratches. Velvet carry bag. **\$350**

Sigma OS 150-500 F5-6.3 Telephoto Lens with 86mm circular polarizer
 Only used once
 Optical Stabilizer and Autofocus
 Original box and padded carry bag
 Lens hood and front and rear caps
 Tripod mounting bracket
 New cost \$1200 plus tax. Will sell for **\$850**

Lowepro Flipside 400 AW Camera Backpack
 Smart Olive Green colour. Lots of pockets and adjustable dividers for customizing
 Tripod holder. Adjustable, well padded shoulder and waist straps. All weather cover. **\$120**

Everything is well cared for and in excellent condition. To view and try, please call Fred Norton at **705-745-0626**

* * *

HOW TO SUBMIT IMAGES FOR THE MONTHLY SLIDE SHOW

George Giarratana has taken over Projectionist duties from Terry Carpenter.

Members are welcome to submit up to two images each for the monthly theme and photographer's choice slide show, as well as one image for image review, and up to five images for each outing.

The deadline for submitting your images is always midnight the Friday night before the meeting. To submit, you must now **e-mail your images to a new e-mail address:**
 ppsimages@peterboroughphotographicsociety.com

Before doing so:

- they must be named and resized as instructed below.
- images must be in JPEG format
- please ensure your images are sent as an attachment with your e mail

When re-sizing your horizontal or landscape JPG image, re-size the width to 1024 pix, and let the height adjust automatically.

When re sizing vertical or portrait JPG images, adjust the height to 768 pix, and let the width adjust automatically.

CATEGORY INITIALS WOULD BE:

C FOR IMAGE REVIEW
P FOR PHOTOGRAPHERS CHOICE
T FOR THEME
O FOR OUTING **(USE LETTER O NOT NUMBER ZERO)**
OB FOR BREAKFAST SHOOT **(USE LETTER O NOT NUMBER ZERO)**

NUMBERS WILL BE 1 OR 2 FOR EACH IMAGE IN CATEGORY AND 1 TO 5 FOR EACH OUTING, DEPENDING ON HOW MANY IMAGES YOU SUBMIT PER OUTING.

Only one image can be entered for the image review category. Please ensure a space is placed between the number and your name.

FOR MEMBERS NOT WISHING TO PUT THEIR NAMES ON IMAGES PLEASE REPLACE NAME WITH THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF YOUR PHONE NUMBER /E P1 SPACE 1234 or P2 ####

SAMPLES OF THE NAMING SYSTEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

P1 TERRY CARPENTER OR P2 TERRY CARPENTER (FOR PHOTOGRAPHER'S CHOICE)

T1 TERRY CARPENTER OR T2 TERRY CARPENTER (FOR THEME)

C1 TERRY CARPENTER (FOR IMAGE REVIEW) Only one image can be entered for the image review category.

O1 TERRY CARPENTER UP TO O5 TERRY CARPENTER (FOR EACH OUTING)
(USE LETTER O NOT NUMBER ZERO)

OB1 TERRY CARPENTER UP TO OB5 TERRY CARPENTER (FOR BREAKFAST SHOOT OUTING)
(USE LETTER O NOT NUMBER ZERO)

After resizing and renaming your photo(s), please send JPEG images as an attachment to your e-mail and send to:

ppsimages@peterboroughphotographicsociety.com

Thanks for submitting your images and we look forward to viewing your pictures.

Member Slideshow Challenge Themes

February: white on white

March: speed

April: macro/close-ups

May: reflections

June: bokeh/blur