



The Viewfinder

Newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society

October 2016

Editor: Edward Schroeter editor@viewfindernewsletter.com

Assistant Editor: Judith Bain

Page 1



Acting-President's Message by Margaret Hamilton

Magical Moments

"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."

Each of us, as photographers, gravitates to specific types of photography we enjoy more so than others. There are those who love to shoot landscapes, or architecture, or florals, or portraits, or street photography, to name just a few.

In This Issue ...

- Acting-President's Message, pp 1-2
- Program Notes, pp 3-5
- Outings, p 6
- Techniques, pp 7-8
- Word Images (Poetry), p 9
- The Projectionist, p 10
- Featured Photographer, pp 11-18
- Viewfinder Information, p 19
- Photo Essay, p 20The Parting Shot, p 21

When we get that 'perfect shot' we experience what George Dimitroff likes to refer to as the "joy of photography". There is such a sense of pride and accomplishment when we print a specific photo and know we have something extraordinary.

For the sake of this article, however, I'm choosing to speak to those 'magical moments' that all of us experience. What the camera gifts us is the ability to capture and freeze in time those moments that may never come again. It allows us to feel the joy and the pain of particular happenings in our lives that will be kept forever. Some are even handed down to others to be appreciated long after we are gone.

This is one of my 'magical moments'.

I've been blessed with a very large extended family. Since returning to Canada in 1990, I've had the pleasure and privilege of getting some days up at family cottages near Bancroft. It is always spent with my six female

cousins and we call it our "girl time", no men allowed. For many of these years, we chose to bring the aunties, still alive, up with us to experience some generational love, laughter, singing, and craft time together. The two pictures here are of three of those aunties.

(continued on page 2)

Acting-President's Message (cont'd)

It was an extremely hot day and my cousins and I were concerned for the aunts.

One of my cousins said, "I know, let's put them in the lake". What?

"Yes, let's put the plastic chairs in the lake and feed them lunch together, and they can cool down at the same time." So, we did exactly that! We all watched from the deck of one of the cottages, touched by their simple pleasure of eating lunch and chattering amongst themselves. This moment was so special, so magical it just had to be captured for posterity.

I treasure these photos SO much, since two of these very special ladies have since passed away.

Yes, we all take 'photos', but observe and shoot those 'magical moments'. We all have a gift to allow others to re-live our 'magical moments' just by using our cameras. Our children, our grandchildren, and our friends will thank us. Nothing better!



“

*I know, let's put
them in the lake.*

”



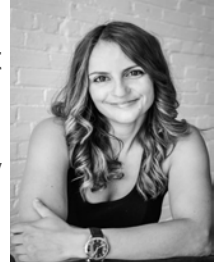


Program Notes by Anita Erschen-Pappas

Learn About Portrait Photography

For October, we welcome Vicky Paradisis to our club meeting to talk about lighting and portraiture.

With her apprenticeship, education, and current photography business, Vicky brings insights and tips for portrait photography.



Vicky has lived in Montreal, Ottawa, and Toronto, but now grounds herself in her home town of Peterborough with a newly-opened, multi-faceted studio and arts centre downtown, called "The Monocle Centre for the Arts". This year she showcased a Spark Photography Exhibit in her studio, which is just part of her talent as a photographer.

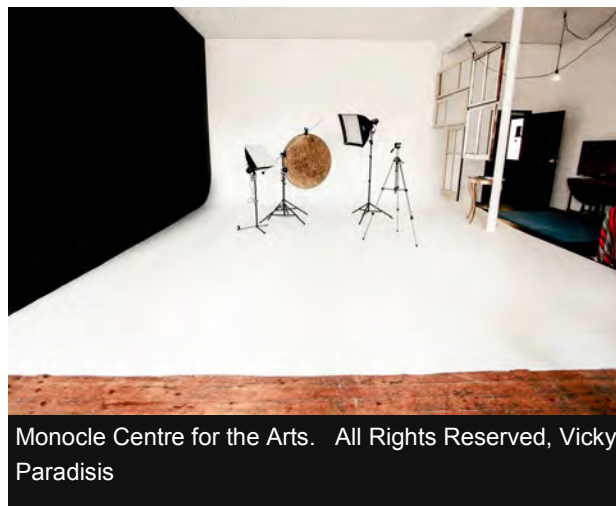


Image Themes

2016-2017

September: Vintage

October: Pathways

November: Movement

December: Geometry

January: 'Awe' Moment

February: Opposites

March: Liquids

April: Hands

May: Abstract with three colours

June: The Letter "M"



All Rights Reserved, Vicky Paradisis



Location Challenge by Pat Carpenter

Beavermead Park

As mentioned in the last newsletter, our Challenge category is the covered bridge in Jackson Park. These images will be shown at the October meeting. You only need to submit one image, and will be asked to take a minute to give a short explanation of it. With all the talent in our club there will sure to be some awesome ideas. Please submit them to the **Miscellaneous Dropbox folder**. Thanks to all who choose to participate.

The next challenge will be the playground equipment, near the beach, in Beavermead Park. These images will be shown at the December meeting.

**October
Meeting**

Tuesday

October 4th

7 p.m.

Lions Centre,

347 Burnham St.

Peterborough, ON

K9H 1T5



The covered bridge, Jackson Park, Peterborough. Copyright 2016 by Terry Carpenter. All rights reserved.



Beavermead Park, All Rights Reserved, City of Peterborough



Copyright by Paul Macklin, 2016. All rights reserved.

Three New Viewfinder Features for Members

The Viewfinder invites PPS members to submit their work for the following three new features:

- **The Story Behind My Photograph:** Send in one or more photos and the story behind them
- **Photo Essay:** Send in a series of photographs on a topic or location
- **The Parting Shot:** Send in a photo with date, time, location, aperture, shutter speed, and ISO.



Wayne Eardley inspired PPS members with a show of his photography at the September Meeting. Copyright by Paul Macklin, 2016. All rights reserved.



Outings by Dave Duffus

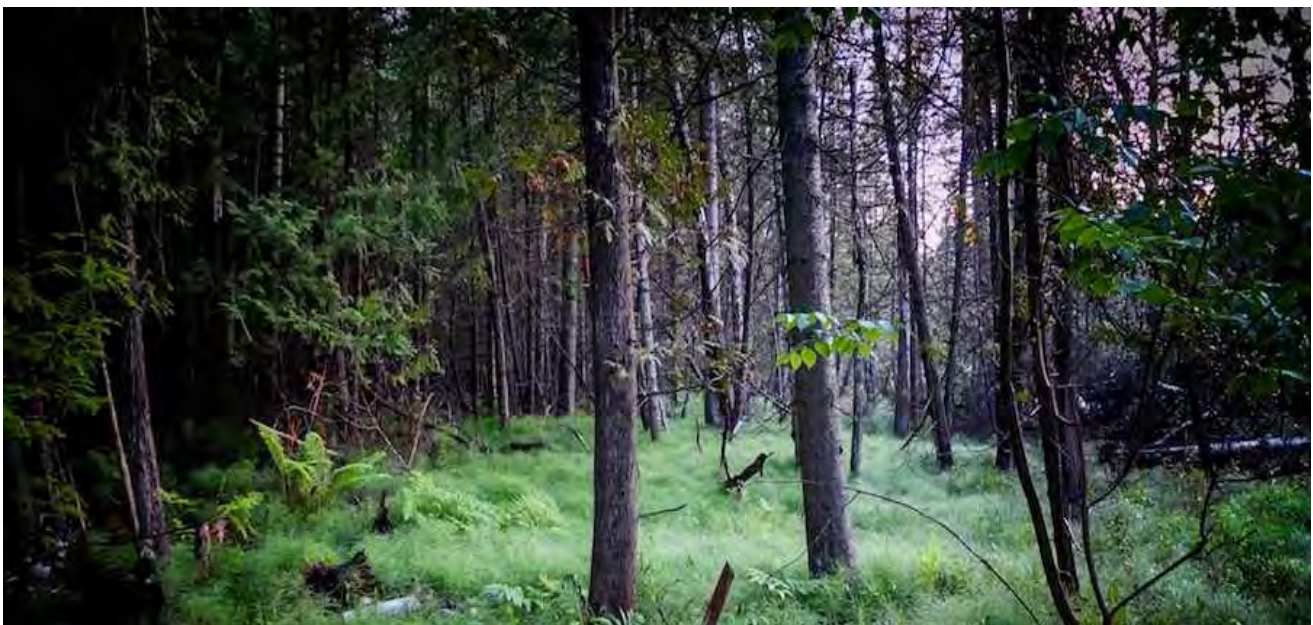
Algonquin Park and Harper Park

The October Regular Outing will be to Algonquin Park on the 18th and 19th. Some members are staying in hotels, and others are camping. Dinner on the 18th will be at the Gas Station Restaurant at 4 p.m. Breakfast will be in the same place at 9:30 a.m.

On October 1st, the Breakfast Outing will be at Harper Park beginning at 8:30 a.m. Please note there are ticks in the park. Members should wear long pants and rubber boots, which will also make it possible to shoot in the water. Breakfast will be at the Queensway Restaurant after the Outing. Please let Dave know if you plan to attend.



Harper Park, All Rights Reserved, Harper Park Stewardship Initiative



Harper Park, All Rights Reserved, Harper Park Stewardship Initiative



Techniques by Dave Duffus

Shooting the Milky Way

Milkyway Photo Basics

- 1-Shoot in Raw format for best results. Info for JPEG will be noted where different from Raw.
- 2-Set camera for manual focus and exposure.
- 3-Set camera to use remote cable release if possible, set delay for 3 seconds after mirror goes up.
- 4-Use wide angle lens 10-28 mm, set for aperture of f/2.8 or faster.
- 5-Use ISO between 800-6400 depending on darkness of sky. Start using ISO 3200.
- 6-Use Liveview for manual focusing using the moon or a bright star & zooming in to 10%.
- 7- If you can't use Liveview, set lens at infinity take a shot, review & adjust as required.
- 8-Turn off all noise reduction { if using JPEG leave it on}.
- 9-Use a steady tripod
- 10-To calculate exposure to get sharp stars use the following formula.

$400/\text{lens focal length} = \text{exposure time in seconds.}$

For a 20mm lens $400/20\text{mm} = 20$ seconds

This is for full frame. **If you use an aps sensor you multiply you lens focal length by 1.5 for Nikon or 1.6 for Canon.** So a 20mm lens on a Nikon aps is $20 \times 1.5 = 30\text{mm.}$

$400/30 = 13.3$ seconds

(continued on page 8)



Techniques (cont'd)

Shooting the Milky Way

So you can see what you are doing in the dark, use a red flashlight. NOT a white light. White light ruins night vision.

When you look at the results on your monitor they will appear to be a little dull!!

The image you see has not yet been processed. Post-processing is necessary to get the most from your image.

NOTE: *The exposure here was calculated using the “400” rule. For best sharp stars, some people use 500 or 600 to determine exposure. If they are for the web 600 should be fine.*

Post-processing ... Photoshop, Lightroom etc. There are also many programs specific to processing astro-photos. At some point those interested could get together to do some post-processing.

Dave Duffus



Stock Image



Word Images (Poetry)

Is This Our Future?

by Murray Arthur Palmer © 2016

In the year 2029 an old but able man sits next to an open window.

The air inside is usually stale, but today he enjoys the cool inflow.

In high density housing the birds he knew he sees around no more,

Counting himself fortunate he doesn't live in the downtown core.

He dreams of his youth when he could see and hear loons at the lake.

He's been looking at portraits of birds he took, wishing for more to take.

He remembers falling asleep at night to the

tremolos and wails of loons.

Now the night music, if one can call it that, lacks

such wondrous tunes.

Gone, too, are the whippoorwill, the spotted

sandpiper peep-peep-peeping.

Most people thought only of fun and profit, the

wildlife not worth keeping.

He recalls a place tucked in the woods, a stream beavers dammed for a pond.

If he could trade these bleak walls for such a place, he'd gladly abscond.

It's spring in his mind: male yellowthroats sing "witchety-witchety-witchety!"

The more he imagines it, the more he becomes so fidgety, fidgety, fidgety.

He sees whirligig beetles spinning, dragonflies abuzz in search of prey.

He's determined to go there, to his paradise, by some means, some way.

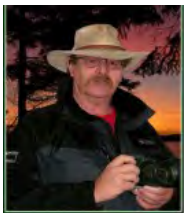
He packs his gear, arranges for a car, and smiles broadly as he gets in.

Now, at the edge of the stream that was his dream, he cries as he wades in ...

Beavers can help mitigate effects of climate change, but we must do our part.

We as photographers can motivate others to act by the influence of our art.





The Projectionist by Terry Carpenter

Submitting Slideshow Images

Hi Folks.

As your new projectionist, I have made changes to the way you will submit photos, and the projection of your images at monthly meetings. These changes should make sending images for presentation much smoother, and will enable the showing of these images in a much better presentation. Please check out the website: <http://www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com>.

First, select the images you wish to submit to the PPS Categories. Copy these images into a folder and re-size them to a width of 1024 or vertical 768, and give each image a simple title, for example, *Lift locks At Sunset*. DO NOT ADD YOUR NAME.

On the web site, go to "Home" and then to "Image Submission". The first thing you will see on this page is "Preparing Images for Club Slideshow". Please click on this to find out all you need to know about how to submit images. The main difference you will notice is that you must TITLE your images (MANDATORY), instead of re-naming your image with a letter plus your name, etc. All you now need to do is give your image a simple title. When sending breakfast outing images please put a B in front of the title: *B Lift locks At Sunset*. The new system will automatically put your name onto the image for the presentation.

Now, back to the Image Submission page. Scrolling down the page you will see all the Categories we use: Theme, Photographer's Choice, Outing, Members' Slideshows, and Video Submissions, and Miscellaneous. You will also see a brief description of each category, and you will see each category high-lighted in blue. These are the links on which to click to submit your images.

Click on a blue link and it will take you to a Dropbox page asking you to choose your files. Click this icon and it will open a page where you can select the images you wish to submit. Highlight your selected images and click on "Open" at the bottom-right of the page. This will direct you to a page showing you which category you have selected, which images you have selected, and will ask you for your name and e-mail. After typing this information, click on "Up-load" at the bottom of the page. That is all there is to it. I know in print it sounds a lot, but, in reality, it is very quick and smooth. Now, close the page and go to the next category and repeat the instructions.

The deadline for submitting your images is always midnight on the Friday before the meeting. If you have questions, please contact me. I will try to help: 705-742-1724, or ppsphotos@cogeco.ca.

Hi, Folks!

Here is your chance to showcase your images and to help promote the PPS! The first 10 images received each month will be shown on Cogeco Channel 10. Brian Crangle is well known for his wonderful images that he has shown on this channel. Please send me 1 of your images that you would like to have displayed. I will send it, with our Logo, to Cogeco and the photos will be shown in upcoming months. Please: NO faces, controversial subjects, alcohol, or pets. Re-size your photo to 640 x 480. Please re-name it with your name only, and send it to me: ppsphotos@cogeco.ca



Featured Photographer: Lydia Dotto

An Accidental Photographer

I'm an accidental photographer. Unlike many PPS members, I did not become a camera bug at an early age, despite growing up with a father who never went anywhere without his beloved movie camera (at a time when almost no one owned such a thing). So I guess I can't claim that genetics made me do it.

In fact, I've spent most of my life as a writer, specializing in science and the environment. I was the science writer for the Globe and Mail in the 1970s, and then a freelancer who wrote magazine articles and books, dabbled in television and radio, and taught environmental communications at Trent University.

FIRST "EXPOSURE" TO PHOTOGRAPHY

Through the years, I occasionally took pictures with the film equivalent of a "point 'n shoot" camera, mostly when I was travelling. But I never took it seriously. This is something I regret now because, as a reporter and writer, I was often sent on assignments to interesting places, to see and do interesting things. I'd dearly love to take my camera back to many of the events I experienced: the launches of Apollo missions and the space shuttle, diving under six feet of ice in the Arctic, flying in NASA's astronaut training plane, and standing over the fire pit of an actively erupting Mauna Loa volcano as pebbles of solidified lava rained down on my head.

FIRST CAMERA/CAMERA EQUIPMENT

I came to photography through a different passion -- my love of computers. It was the advent of the digital camera in the early 2000s that piqued my interest in photography. I bought an early Canon Powershot S1 around 2004, mostly just to see what all the digital fuss was about. I honestly didn't think I'd make much use of it. But, at the time I was looking for an excuse to get away from sitting at the computer for 15 hours a day, and I thought getting out to take a few pictures now and then would help. It did -- and it surprised me how quickly I became obsessed with this new way of "seeing."



Examples of early shooting. Images © Lydia Dotto

Featured Photographer: Lydia Dotto (cont'd)

It wasn't long before that first camera was no longer good enough. I worked my way up through the Canon XTi to my first DSLR, the 7D. One of the most important decisions I made was to invest in good glass such as the pro 70-200mm f/2.8 and the 300mm f/4 lenses.

But, as I got older, the size and weight of all this equipment started taking a physical toll. It was also difficult to get everything into a carry-on bag that airlines would accept. In 2014, I began hearing the buzz about micro four-thirds mirrorless cameras, which are about half the weight and size of equivalent DSLRs (although, unfortunately, not half the price.)



Veranda rocking chairs © Lydia Dotto



Photo by Paul Macklin

So, after a photo trip to Tanzania in late 2014 -- with a camera bag that weighed nearly 50 pounds -- I decided to make the leap. I sold all my Canon gear and bought the Olympus EM-1, plus two pro lenses (12-40mm and 40-150mm) and a consumer 75-300mm lens. Using this gear has been an ongoing pleasure; the image quality is amazing and my camera bag now weighs half what it did before. My lower back and neck are grateful.

FAVOURITE SUBJECTS

When I got my first camera, I shot anything and everything that crossed my path, but my interest in science and nature inevitably lead me to wildlife photography, which became my primary focus.



Polar bear, red fox and snowy egret. © Lydia Dotto



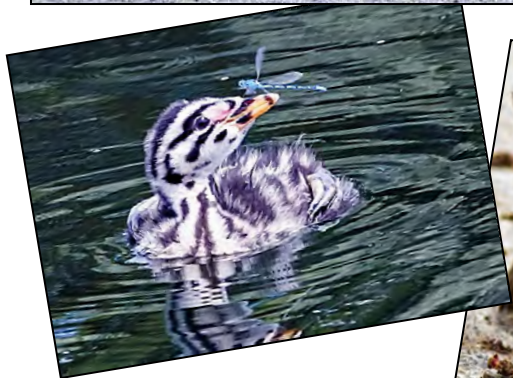
Featured Photographer: Lydia Dotto (cont'd)



Red-headed woodpecker, grizzly bear, bullfrog. © Lydia Dotto

It wasn't long before I discovered that fast action and dynamic, unpredictable behaviour offer the greatest photographic challenges.

It feels great to nail a shot in difficult shooting conditions. It's a never-ending buffet of frustration and failure, but the reward is getting an amazing "gotcha" moment.



Featured Photographer: Lydia Dotto (cont'd)

MOST SATISFYING AND MEMORABLE MOMENTS

My most satisfying and memorable moments have occurred during a series of photo trips across Canada and abroad. A 2008 visit to Newfoundland was the first of several almost magical experiences and a defining one for me. It involved two unusual events: The first was climbing up a rocky cliff (while being dive-bombed by gulls) to shoot the nesting area of Atlantic Puffins. The second was spending six hours in a zodiac watching Humpback Whales jumping out of the water with wild abandon.



Atlantic puffins; Humpback Whales breaching, tail and fin flapping. Images © Lydia Dotto

Other memorable trips included Tanzania and Costa Rica in 2014, and Antarctica in 2015. The sheer abundance and variety of the wildlife was breathtaking. The following is a small sample.



Tanzania: Little Bee-eater, Rhino, Lion, Cheetah, Lion in tree.

Images © Lydia Dotto

Featured Photographer: Lydia Dotto (cont'd)

Costa Rica offered an astonishing variety of birds, including more than 300 species of hummingbirds.



Costa Rica: Fiery-throated Hummingbird, Crimson-collared Tanager, Green Violet Ear Hummingbird, Resplendent Quetzal. Images © Lydia Dotto

In Antarctica, I saw seven species of penguin, five species of whale, five species of seal, and a great variety of birds.



Antarctica: Adelle Penguin with chick, Elephant Seal, Rockhopper Penguin, Southern Orca, King Penguins. Images © Lydia Dotto

Featured Photographer: Lydia Dotto (cont'd)



I also enjoy shooting sports, for the same reason I love shooting wildlife. Constantly juggling ISO, shutter speed, and aperture, to cope with changing conditions and keep up with fast action and unpredictable behaviour certainly keeps you on your toes.



Images © Lydia Dotto

For the last 10 years, I've shot children's sports camps for Peterborough's Recreation Department. These images are used in the city's Leisure Guide.



Featured Photographer: Lydia Dotto (cont'd)



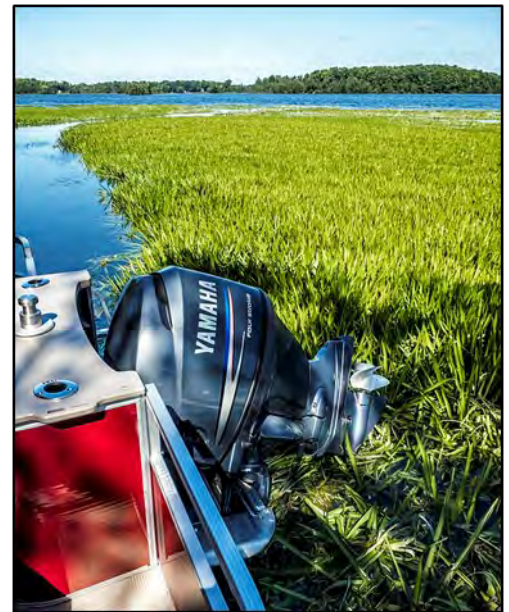
I also like to shoot events and activities related to the environment. This summer, I shot a student competition, the North American Envirothon, at Trent University.



Images © Lydia Dotto



I took these images of a project to eradicate an invasive species called the Water Soldier from the Trent-Severn Waterway. These plants, escapees from domestic water gardens, overwhelm shorelines and interfere with recreational and economic use of the waterway.

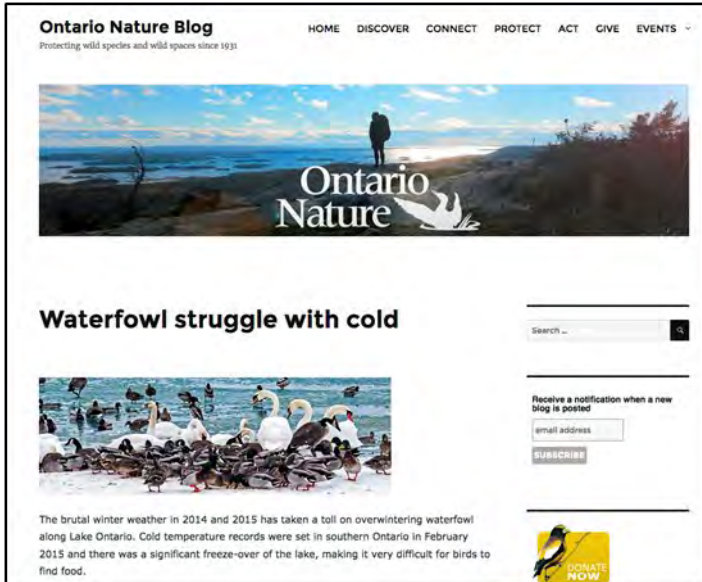


These images were taken for a photo essay on the effects of an extremely cold winter on waterfowl on the Great Lakes. A goose named "Peggy" lost a foot after being frozen in ice overnight -- not an uncommon occurrence during bitterly cold winters.



Images © Lydia Dotto

Featured Photographer: Lydia Dotto (cont'd)



In March, 2015, this essay was published on the web site of *On Nature Magazine*.



They only feed the birds during extreme cold weather, when the birds cannot find food on their own. Whenever someone shows up with food, there is a frenzy among the hungry birds to get to the chow line. Buckets of corn disappear in minutes.

I'm always looking for opportunities to publish my images, and I particularly enjoy doing photo essays that tell stories about nature and scientific research.



Feature on Wildlife Reserve, *Muskoka Magazine*



Bird Banding, *Canadian Wildlife Magazine*



Feature on Osprey feeding, *WILD Magazine*



Puffin photo feature, *Canadian Wildlife Magazine*



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Editorial

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Departments

President's Message: Marg Hamilton

Program Notes: Anita Erschen-Pappas

Outings: Dave Duffus

Image Review: Brian Crangle

The Projectionist: Terry Carpenter

Contributors

Margaret Hamilton, Pat Carpenter, Paul Macklin, Terry Carpenter, Murray Palmer, Dave Duffus, Lydia Dotto, Anita Erschen-Pappas, Barry Killen, and Judith Bain.

Viewfinder Submissions

We encourage club members to submit their photos and personal news, as well as articles, poetry, writing, and humour about photography and our club.

Text submissions should be in one of the following file formats: .doc, .rtf, .odt, or .pub. Image files in formats such as .jpeg, .tiff, .gif, or .png graphic file.

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

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Peterborough Photographic Society

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

Write to us or send us your stories, images, articles, poetry, ideas, and your humour here at ppsviewfinder@yahoo.ca or editor@viewfindernewsletter.com

You can also visit our website at www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com.

We're also on Facebook! You can find us at www.facebook.com/PeterboroughPhotographicSocietyCanada.



Photo Essay by Judith Bain

Infra-red Photography



Taken with a DSLR converted to infra-red, these photos were post-processed in Lightroom, Nik's SilverEfix Pro, and Topaz Texture Effects.





The Parting Shot by Barry Killen

“Camera Obscura Anita!”



Barry snapped this photo of fellow executive member Anita Erschen-Pappas, who has a fondness for large format cameras, while clowning around at a recent PPS club meeting. Copyright 2016 by Barry Killen. All rights reserved.