



The Viewfinder

Newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society



Acting-President's Message by Edward Schroeter

The Joy of Serving On the PPS Executive

"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."

Hello PPS! Belated Seasons Greetings to you all, and wishing you all the best in 2017.

In the spirit of the season, with its emphasis on family, friendship, giving, and charity, I ask you to turn your thoughts to National Volunteer Week in Canada. This year it's April 23 to 29, 2017. This event will be followed closely, on Tuesday, May 2, by the annual PPS elections.

In This Issue ...

- Acting-President's Message, pp 1-3
- Program Notes, pp 4-5
- A Note From the Editor, p 6
- Location Challenge, p 7
- Outings, p 8
- Story Behind the Photo, pp 9-10
- Techniques, pp 11-14
- Word Images (Poetry), pp 15-16
- The Projectionist, p 17
- Member Exhibitions, p 18
- SPARK, p 19
- Viewfinder Information, p 20
- The Parting Shot, p 21

Every year the club strikes a search committee to fill any vacancies that arise on our 13-member Executive Board. Those positions are as follows:

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership Director
Program Director
Outings Director
Director-At-Large
Director-At-Large
Digital Director (Projectionist)
Webmaster and Director of Social Media
Editor of The Viewfinder.

The Past President is an unelected position filled by the outgoing president.

Cont'd on Page 2

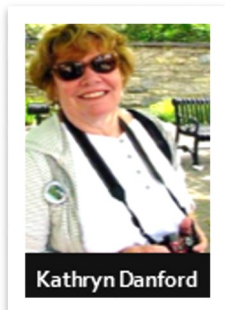
Acting-President's Message (cont'd)

With several long-serving members on the PPS Executive Board, such as Paul and Dawn Macklin and Terry Carpenter, there are bound to be more than a few vacancies this year. We are going to need some members to step up and come on to the executive, as Suzanne Schroeter, Kathryn Danford, Dave Duffus, and I did three or more years ago.

I can already imagine many of you heaving a collective sigh and staring down at your feet. A paraphrase of the historic words of former U. S. President John F. Kennedy is probably resounding in your mind: "Ask not what your club can do for you. Instead ask what you can do for your club." But this famous quote is only half the equation. Instead of looking at these executive board roles as shackles, you can look on the positive side. Serving on the PPS board is a chance to get to together with a dozen colleagues and friends for a few hours ten times a year (once a month), join in some great conversations about photography and the club, have some great food and drink, have fun, and enjoy great camaraderie. You might even learn something about photography and leadership, and develop some new skills. You will definitely make new friends. Volunteering is a two-way street.

“
Be brave, become involved, and get to know people.”

But don't take my word for it. I spoke to PPS treasurer Kathryn Danford about her experience on the Executive: "When I first joined PPS, I was quite shy and a bit nervous, and certainly didn't submit photos for the slideshow. A decision had to be made ... be brave, become involved, and get to know people."



Kathryn agreed to take on the role of treasurer. Said Kathryn, "New friends have been made, I am involved in making decisions, and we have a lot of fun in the process. As much as we love all the familiar faces at our executive meetings, we would also love some new ones." In the meantime, Kathryn has also contributed a great deal to the club. She explained that the treasurer's job was a good fit for her as she is a former banker. "I am far from perfect performing this duty, but the rest of our Executive are wonderful, helpful people. They are willing to pitch in when needed."

So you see, running for a position on the PPS board is also your chance to contribute your unique ideas and talents to the club for the benefit of the entire membership. Getting involved is your chance to make a difference to the club, to make positive changes. This is also your chance to be on the inner circle. This is your chance to make "the magic" happen.



PPS makes "magic"

Do you know that 44% of Canadians volunteer in some way or another? Two out of every five Canadians can't be wrong. These people who give of their time have been enjoying the rewards of volunteering for 150 glorious years. Some recent studies estimate that about a hundred million people volunteer in North America each year with an annual value of goods and services worth approximately \$150 billion.

Cont'd on Page 3

Acting-President's Message (cont'd)

For hundreds of years, volunteers have pitched in to treat community maladies and needs. Hospitals, orphanages, schools, and local fire companies (to name a very few) were the result of a civic rallying around a cause. That civic concern and community coalescence continues today in religious charities, Habitat for Humanities, hospitals, libraries, schools, colleges, hospices, YMCAs, theatres, and clubs like PPS, to name just a very few.

The simple truth is that not-for-profit organizations would not exist if not for volunteers. They really are the backbone of non-profit clubs like PPS. Their efforts create positive impact in communities across Canada. They help with fund-raising, administrative tasks, organizing events, and operations. They help spread the word about the mission of the organization. Those who serve on the boards of directors are the lifeblood of not-for-profit organizations. They take responsibility for policy-making, planning, assuring that the organization has enough membership fee money to run, and for making sure the insurance policy is paid and the meeting rooms are booked.

In whatever way they serve, volunteers are a treasured asset, real crown jewels. If you stand for election for the PPS Executive Board, I promise you that you will be treated royally. Take it from someone who has been there. I am sure that you will receive as much or more than you give. I hope to see you on the PPS ballot in May! Cheers, everyone!





Program Notes by Anita Erschen-Pappas

“Winding Down Means Gearing Up”

As we wind down for the holidays, and roll into 2017, we can allow ourselves time to pursue new techniques, travel to new places, or perhaps try new gear. A different neighbourhood, a new museum, morning light, dusk, hiring a model, trying out that 2.8 wide-angle lens – so many things are possible!

Do you like sunny, crisp winter days? Terry Carpenter recently showed us an instructional video about the “Sunny 16 Rule”. An ISO of 200 with a shutter speed of 1/200 at F16 will render a proper exposure if there is bright sun and white snow. Perhaps rainy, foggy, bad weather days would present a different challenge. Although there are weather-sealed cameras and lenses, a rain cover is essential. Anything from a shower cap to tailor-made plastic covers are available. Does anyone have any experience shooting in challenging weather conditions? With proper gear, perseverance, a little stubbornness and creative drive, we can embrace our Canadian winter with all that it offers.

“What’s in Your Brown Bag?”

If you have participated in the Brown-Bag Exchange and are wondering what to do with that unusual object that defies recognition or significance, there are several approaches you can take. A nail, cork or twist-tie can be transformed into a mobile gone haywire. Play around with composition, light, post-processing – the possibilities are endless, until it’s time to submit images to Terry the Projectionist.

Guest Speaker is George Dimitroff, on Remote Triggers

George will be demonstrating and explaining remote triggers. We will find out what’s needed and how to use the gear in several ways. This area is probably new to a lot of people.



Buy, sell, and trade at January meeting

Are you interested in buying, selling, or trading gear? At the January meeting we will allow for a buy/sell during the meeting. Terry Carpenter will also be providing us with informative, useful, and humorous instructional videos. This will make the evening a delight.

January theme

A reminder, that the theme for January is “Awe Moment”.

Opportunities for members to give photo talks/demonstrate techniques

If any of you would like to give a talk about your photography, or show some examples of some techniques, there is some room in the early part of 2017 to fit it into the Program.

Please contact me at pappas@cogeco.ca or [705-745-8994](tel:705-745-8994).

Please note: The January meeting of PPS will be Tuesday, January 10, 2017 @ 7 pm.



Photo Essay: Christmas Dinner 2016 by Paul Macklin



A Note From the Editor

This note is a reminder to all members that *The Viewfinder* is YOUR newsletter.

We can only continue to publish our monthly editions if we have contributions from the membership. If you cannot see a way to volunteer as a member of the Executive, please contribute to the PPS by sending articles, photos, and photography-related information for inclusion in *The Viewfinder*. Thank you!

January Outings

Jan. 14th

National Air Museum

Jan. 28th

Campbellford

Polar Plunge

Image Themes

January: 'Awe' Moment

February: Opposites

March: Liquids

April: Hands

May: Abstract with three colours

June: The Letter "M"

Viewfinder Seeks Submissions from 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.



Location Challenge by Pat Carpenter

Charlotte Street Mews

The December images for the Location Challenge were very impressive, with many different interpretations of a single subject. More members participated this time so, hopefully, it will generate more interest in making the shot uniquely your own.

The Location Challenge for February is the **Charlotte Street Mews**. This is a very interesting location, and you should be able to produce some very unique images there. Again, only one image per photographer (to be shot between December and January), and to be submitted to the MISCELLANEOUS DROPBOX file, and titled "Challenge".

Looking forward to seeing all the images in February.



Charlotte Street Mews. Copyright 2016 by Terry Carpenter. All rights reserved.

January Meeting
Tuesday, January 10th
7:30 PM @ the Lions Centre,
347 Burnham St., Peterborough, ON



Outings by Dave Duffus

Bombers and “Bares”!

Regular Outing:

Jan 14th : Trenton Air Museum (National Air Museum). We will meet at the Harper Road car-pool lot and leave from there at 8:30 a.m. There is an indoor museum area, and depending on the weather we might be able to photograph the outside exhibits. I will have further details at the next meeting.



Photo by the National Air Museum

Breakfast Outing:

Jan 28th : Campbellford Polar Plunge at 12 noon, 20 Queen Street. We can go for breakfast before the Plunge. More info will be provided at the January meeting.



Stock Photo

NOTE: If you plan to go on one of the Outings, please sign the sheet at the meeting, or send Dave an email. It's much easier to make reservations when we know how many will be attending. Thank you!



The Story Behind My Photo

By Brian Crangle

This image was taken in the Stony Swamp Conservation Area, on the outskirts of Ottawa. It is a spot Liz and I visit each time we go to see our daughter, her husband, and our riotous grandsons. There are several Conservation areas in the vicinity, however, this one has marshlands, an animal hospital, and several good lookout points. I always take some bird seed and come away with a "keeper" or two following a half-hour walk. At some locations the chickadees will sit on your hand.

Last fall (October 2016), we stopped as usual and, as usual, I had my bird seed and my Tamron 150 - 600 mm VR on my Nikon D90 at the ready. I took several shots, however, on returning home I found this one showed how soon the chickadee collapses its feathers before landing. (Aperture Priority, ISO 250, F10, 1-2000 sec ev-1.(i.e. underexposed).) It was a very bright day! I hope you enjoy it as much as we do!



"Black-Capped Chickadee" by Brian Crangle. Copyright by the Photographer, All Rights Reserved.



The Story Behind My Photo

By Elaine Birch

I was so happy to see the weather that created this scene. That evening, I saw a dark sky with many different shaped clouds, rainbows, and lightning. I went to bed with happy thoughts of the photos I had taken.

The weather behind the photos turned into a nightmare. The wind shook our camper truck violently and a deafening sound came from the rain pounding on it. The lightning was very intense.

I felt the camper truck was going to break apart during the storm. I looked out the window to see our camping neighbours putting their wind-blown tent into their car and then retreating into the car themselves. The next morning when I looked around the campground, there were very few tents that had weathered the storm.



"Badlands, South Dakota", by Elaine Birch. Copyright by the Photographer. All rights reserved.



Techniques by Dave Duffus

Shooting the Super Moon



When I decided that I wanted to shoot the super moon, I had to choose a location. I couldn't think of anywhere around Peterborough that I felt would make a great foreground. I already knew of a location in Toronto that might work.

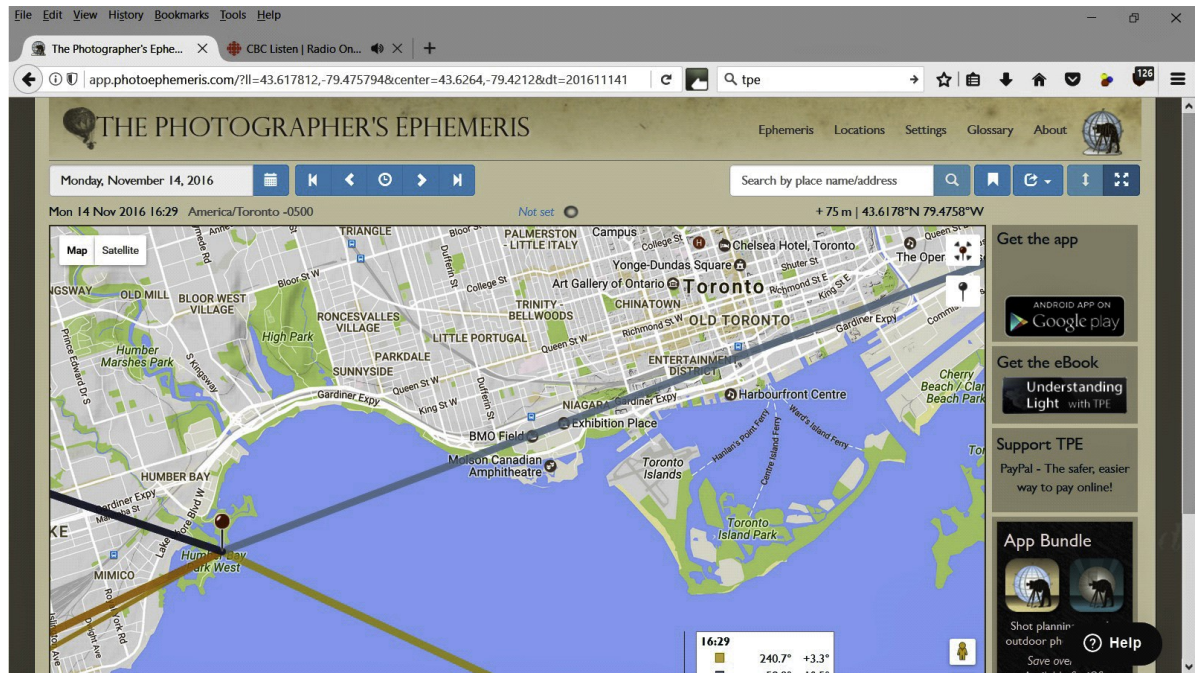
To be sure, I used a free desktop app called [The Photographer's Ephemeris](#), TPE for short. This app allows me to enter a location and a date, and it will show moonrise and sunrise and set times and tracks for that location and date. After checking TPE, I decided that Humber Bay West Park was the place to be.

Cont'd on Page 12



Techniques cont'd

Shooting the Super Moon



When I went for supper the sky was clear. Thirty minutes later it was cloudy. I arrived at the park half an hour early to set up and found many people getting their camera gear organized. I took a few test shots to get a good exposure for the Toronto skyline. I also took into account the fact that the moon moves across the sky fairly fast. The moon rose behind cloud cover and all I had to do was ensure that the clouds didn't drift during my exposure. My final camera settings for this image were:

Nikon 70-300mm lens @ 200mm.

ISO 800

F/6, 1/2-second exposure.

There was a lot of stray light in the sky due to a very light mist. When I processed the image in Lightroom, I darkened the sky slightly and increased contrast. This allowed a spotlight beam to faintly shine through.

The final image was easier to shoot with the cloud cover since the dynamic range was smaller. If there had been no clouds, I would have taken two images to get the proper exposure for the foreground and the moon and then blended them in Photoshop.



Techniques by George Giarratana

Night Shooting



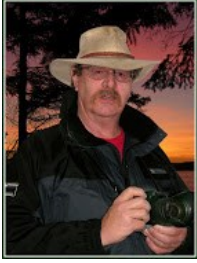
This photograph was taken late at night as I was trying to capture a nice image of the moon.

At the same time, I was playing with ISO, and as you can see this was taken at 12,800. I did not use a tripod (should have), so obviously the camera was hand-held.

I have included the original image below, which included some vehicles which were cloned out. Also, I applied some sharpening with the photo above being the final result. The Exif data is noted below:

EXIF	Histogram	JPEG Comment
EXIF Metadata		
Make	PENTAX	
Model	PENTAX K-5 II s	
Software	K-5 II s Ver 1.00	
Date/Time	2016-10-16 20:12:22	
Exposure Time	1/10 sec	
Exposure Program	Aperture priority	
Exposure Bias	0.3 EV	
F Number	F 2.8	
Max Aperture	F 1	
ISO Speed ratings	ISO 12800	
Flash	Flash did not fire [off]	
Focal Length	25.63 mm	
35mm Equivalent		
Metering Mode	Center weighted average	
GPS		





Techniques by Terry Carpenter

Faststone Photo Re-sizer to Convert, Re-size, Crop, Rotate & Change Colour

At the last meeting I presented a demonstration on how to use Faststone Photo Re-sizer. For those who weren't at the meeting, and as a reminder for those who were, here is a quick overview of the program. You can down-load the re-sizer at <http://www.faststone.org/>.

This program is an image converter and re-naming tool that enables users to convert, re-name, re-size, crop, rotate, change colour depth, and add text and watermarks to images in a quick and easy batch mode, thus saving you a lot of time and headaches. This article will just deal with the re-sizing aspect.

So, here is how we go about re-sizing our images for PPS. First, copy your images into a separate folder. I use the desktop. Open up the Faststone program and you will see two large white boxes. In the top right-hand corner of the box on the left you will see five small icons. Use these icons to find your images. Once you have your images in the left-hand box click on the last icon on the top to open these files into thumbnails. Highlight the images by holding down the ctrl key and clicking on each image. Now, on the right-hand side you will see Add and Add All, click on one of these buttons. Your images will now be placed in the right-hand box. Below the right-hand box there are several controls. The first is out-put format, which you must ensure is set for JPG. Next is the out-put folder, which is the file to which you would like to save your images. I usually use the same folder where the images were originally stored. Next, make sure the "advanced options" button is selected by putting a check mark in the small box. Then click on the "advanced options" button to open another page which has a lot of buttons at the top. For now, just click on re-size, and then, check resize in the top left corner. Here you will see many options. The two we are most concerned with are "In Pixels" and "Re-size based on one side". In the "In Pixels" box pick a size you wish to use by clicking in the standard size and selecting 1024 x 768, and make sure that "preserve aspect ratio" is checked. If you prefer to re-size based on one side only, click on "based by one side only". Here you will select width or height depending on your image being a horizontal or vertical, then select the size you wish. If it is a horizontal image you would select 1024, if a vertical select 768. Then click "OK" at the bottom right. Now, just click "convert" at the bottom right corner and you are done. The next time you use the program it will remember your settings and will be much easier and faster to use.

It sounds complicated, but is very easy to use. Just try it.

Terry



Word Images (Poetry)

The Happy, Hardy Three

by Murray Arthur Palmer, © 2016

We're ready for winter, as much as we Happy, Hardy Three can be:
Northern Cardinal, Pileated Woodpecker, and Black-capped Chickadee.
Unlike most birds, we don't migrate south to warmer climes
Since food supply, not temperature, affects survival in cold times.
Ospreys can't plunge through ice, swallows won't find insects in flight,
But with seeds, berries and hidden insects, we suffer no plight.
Black Cap finds food cached in fall and scattered in great numbers,
And even feeds on remains for fuel to burn at night while he slumbers.
He lowers his body temperature to save energy, shivering when too cool.
Next morning finds him foraging to restore last night's depleted fuel.
Black Cap and Red Bird visit feeders for shelled peanuts and oilseeds.
Suet in netted bags or logs may satisfy Roll O' Thunder's needs.
Cock of the North, the scourge of wood-boring larvae and carpenter ants,
He digs deep into live and fungus-infected trees, giving insects no chance.
Striking wood with closed beak, he creates a rolling, drumming sound
Heard near and far to let us know the Great Thunderbird's still around.
There's nothing like new-fallen snow to make the Northland look grand,
But sometimes it's tough to find food enough, so please give us a hand.



The Happy, Hardy Three Photo by Murray Palmer. Copyright by the photographer.



Word Images (Poetry)

Who're You Callin' a Partridge

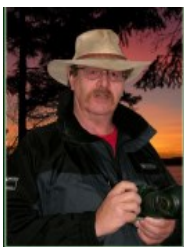
In A Pear Tree?

by Murray Arthur Palmer © 2016

Don't count this bird as a partridge in a pear tree.
 Among poplars and cedars is where I wanna be.
 Styled in camouflaged grey, sometimes red, too,
 I don't migrate south like prissy partridge do.
 I'm a pretty ruffed grouse as you can plainly see,
 Pickin' sleeping buds up high in this poplar tree,
 Or maybe I'll forage on sumac berries along ledges,
 Ravines, and stream- and lake-forest edges.
 I can pick enough buds in twenty minutes to last the
 day,
 Stored in my crop before my gizzard grinds them away.
 For winter I've grown snowshoes as pectinations
 On my toes to enable my feeding ambulations.
 I often roost in the dense shelter of cedar or fir
 For the windbreak and hideout they amply confer.
 Where the snow drifts more than ten inches deep,
 I dive into it, and dig a long tunnel, the better to sleep.
 If the night is very cold, I burst out late in the morning.
 Don't wet your knickers as I exit without warning.
 See the holes and soft impressions my wings make ...
 If the snow is dry and fluffy, I get a real break.



Stock Photo.



The Projectionist by Terry Carpenter

Procedures for submitting your images to the PPS monthly slide-show categories

I would like to provide you with an up-date on the procedures for submitting your images to the PPS monthly slide-show categories.

There seems to be a bit of confusion about re-sizing photos, because last month we received several photos which were not re-sized properly. Please ensure that you re-size your images to 1024 x 768. Send only the appropriate number of photos for each category, as out-lined in the instructions on the web site.

Also, it is imperative that you send your images to the correct Dropbox category. Otherwise, your images might not be shown in the appropriate slide show. These guidelines have been set up so all members can enjoy your images, so please try to ensure that they are sent correctly.

Thank you very much for your attention to these details.

Please Remember: when submitting photos for the *Brown Bag Challenge*, add the prefix *BB* to the titles of your images, and send them to the Miscellaneous Dropbox.

Hi Folks

Brown Bag images are to be sent to the Miscellaneous Dropbox Folder. **Please add the prefix "BB" to the titles of these images.** You can send two images per member for this project. Deadline is the Friday midnight before the January meeting. At the meeting members may, if they wish, describe what they received in the bags, and explain what they did to make their images.

Projectionist Terry



Member Exhibitions by Margaret Hamilton

Elements Exhibition Features Eighteen Local Photographers

To celebrate the success of the monthly photo exhibits, which were held throughout 2016 at Elements Restaurant, we are holding a Year-End Finale. Eighteen local photographers are featured in the December Exhibit at Elements. This exhibit will run until the end of January so if you have not been able to get in to see it yet, you still have time!

Do not miss this very special exhibit!



Elements Restaurant
2016 Photography Exhibit
140 King St., Peterborough

Year End Finale Featuring 18 Local Photographers

Opening Reception
Thursday, December 8th, 2016
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Special Dinner Packages - \$35.00

To Make a Reservation...Please call: 705-876-1116

SPARK

PHOTO FESTIVAL

www.sparkphotofestival.com

The Spark Photography Festival runs through the month of April every year, in Peterborough and the surrounding area. This regional photography festival celebrates the joy of photography and facilitates photographers exhibiting their work in a variety of venues throughout the region. In 2017, we are extremely pleased to be celebrating our 5th anniversary.

Each year, as part of Spark, we run a Juried Photography contest from which 30 photographers images will be printed, matted, and displayed in a venue for the month of April. Submit your file and Spark will do the rest. The top four images, as determined by the judges, will receive generous prizes provided by our **sponsor HP**. Prizes are a his or her **Smart Watch** for **Best of the Show**, \$100 Equivalent HP for First Place, \$75 for Second Place, and \$50 for Third Place. Last year's prizes included tablets and printers. Further, a photographic book prize will be randomly drawn from all entries.

Framing your subject is a common tool used by photographers to bring attention to your image. This can be done using a huge variety of subject matter including architectural features of buildings, natural elements such as trees and flowers, contrast between light and dark areas, focus and out of focus areas and even people. In fact "Framing" can be done in a variety of creative ways. Send us your best, creative work that represents Framing.

The deadline for submissions is:
February 1st, 2017. Please pass this on to any interested photographers in your club.

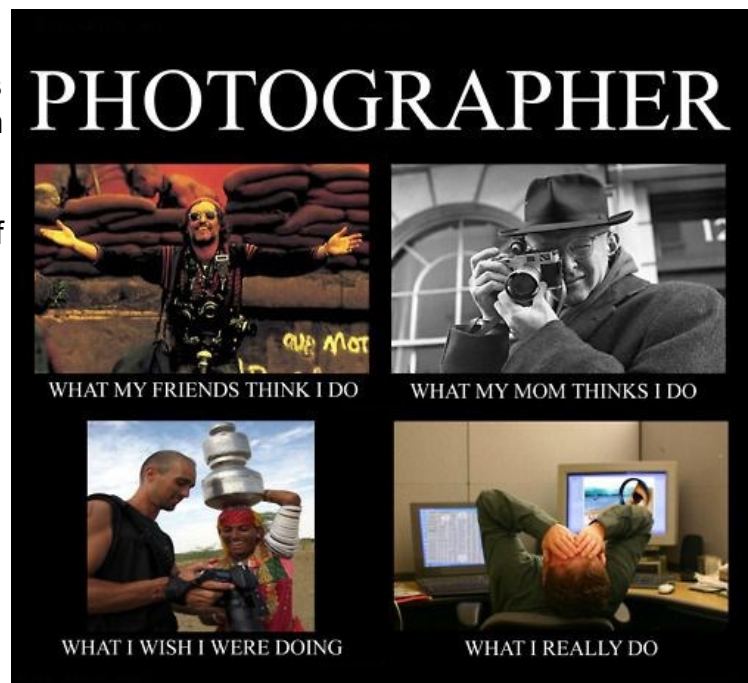
See our website for complete details of the contest and to enter your images.

WWW.sparkphotofestival.org

Best wishes and good luck with your entries.

Randall Romano

Chair of the Spark Juried Exhibition
randall@nexicom.net





The Viewfinder

Newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society

Editorial

Editor: Edward Schroeter

Associate Editor: Judith Bain

Departments

President's Message: Ed Schroeter

Program Notes: Anita Erschen-Pappas

Outings: Dave Duffus

The Projectionist: Terry Carpenter

Contributors

Pat Carpenter, Brian Crangle, Terry Carpenter, Murray Palmer, Elaine Birtch, Anita Erschen-Pappas, Dave Duffus, George Giarratana, Kathryn Danford, Ed Schroeter, Paul Macklin

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 Executive Board

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Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Kathryn Danford

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Outings Director: Dave Duffus

Program Director: Anita Erschen-Pappas

Membership Director: Dawn Macklin

Director-at-Large: Paul Macklin

Director-at-Large: Claude Denis

Projectionist: Terry Carpenter

Viewfinder Editor: Ed Schroeter

Website & Social Media

Director: Suzanne Schroeter



Contact Us

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.



The Parting Shot from Lang Pioneer Museum

“Thank you all for your artistic contributions to make this a great 2016 season! Please pass this on to your members.

Cheers to you and yours, on behalf of the team!”

Jill Chapman

Jill Chapman,
Visitor Experience Co-ordinator,



“Damn. The dark is leaking out of the dark room again.”



Season's Greetings

Wishing you and your family a joyous and happy holiday season!



Paul Elliot *eg* *Joe Corrigan*
Jill Chapman *Johanna Dreyer* *B. Baskin*
Shirley Long *Paula Regany* *Devoré Munniam*

