



The Viewfinder

Newsletter of the Peterborough Photographic Society

February 2018

Editor: Judith Bain

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President's Message By Margaret Hamilton

Winter and Photography

Well, it's not that I don't like winter entirely, and it's not like, from time to time, I haven't bundled up to go out to photograph something specific. I have also gone on a few PPS winter outings. BUT, it is not one of my favourite things to do, by any means. I admire all of those who look forward to getting out there and taking up the challenge.

However, having read a recent article in Canadian Geographic, I will paraphrase the seven tips for cold weather photography that Michelle Valberg (Canadian Geographic Photographer-in-Residence) listed.

1. **Cover up.** When you're trying to be creative and you are uncomfortable from the cold, it takes some of the fun out of the day. Make sure you dress in layers and wear coats and pants that are 'winter friendly'. I learned the hard way that it is necessary to purchase those wee, inexpensive hand and foot warmers...worth their weight in gold!
2. **Guard your equipment.** Protect your camera with a cover, as it will help keep moisture out of your camera and lens.
3. **Batteries, batteries.** Bring multiples and keep them close to your natural body heat.

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Photo by Margaret Hamilton

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President's Message cont'd

4. **Transition.** Carefully and properly transition your equipment from cold to warm. Once back indoors, remove your memory card(s). Put the camera in a plastic bag. Leave the camera in a closed plastic bag as long as possible to avoid condensation.
- 5, **Keep equipment clean.** Carry cleaning wipes for your camera gear in your jacket pockets, and carry tissues as well, as your eyes tear up and your nose will run. If raining or snowing your camera will fog up. Be prepared to clean your lens and eye-piece frequently.
6. **Set it up.** Make sure your camera settings are appropriate for conditions. Michelle Valberg, who wrote the article, suggests using a higher ISO and a faster shutter speed in cold climate to avoid camera shake.

Lastly, embrace the cold (I haven't mastered this). Go out and find wildlife or a landscape and shoot it in a way that might be different.

So, for all of you winter enthusiasts, go out, enjoy, and above all else, stay safe AND warm!



Photo by Michelle Valberg



Photo by Margaret Hamilton



Photo by Margaret Hamilton



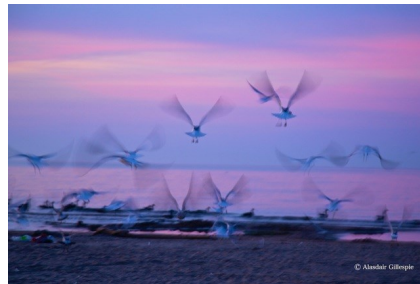
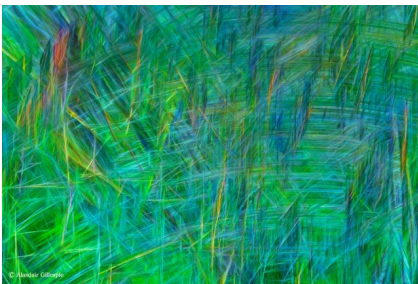
Program Notes By Anita Erschen-Pappas

Powers of Observation

Bill Lockington's presentation about his 2017 travels to Fogo Island allowed us a brief visit to a part of Newfoundland that some of us might have known about, but have never visited. The modern construction of the Fogo Island Inn juts out like a ship against a harsh rock face, borrowing elements of vernacular architecture, next to houses that are referred to as "Salt Boxes" or "Biscuit Boxes". Bill's images of the landscape and colourful architecture of this maritime area provided us with some tips on careful attention to composition, angles, and detail. It was a pleasure to have three sisters visit us that evening, who originate from Fogo Island. Thank you to Pauline Adams, Marguerite Sexton, and Marie Williams for spending time with us.

Alasdair Gillespie will be our guest speaker at the February meeting. He is a retired teacher, based in Cobourg, Ontario, who is passionate about photography and the various ways of seeing the world around us. <http://alasdairgillespie.zenfolio.com>

By using examples, Alasdair's presentation will explore how the powers of observation can be used to capture images using the elements and principles of design. He will show how the two are integrally intertwined and how each element can be significant in your photography. In his presentation he will show us how unlocking the elements and principles will clear the way for amazing photographs.



Brown Bag Exchange

It's that time of year again, when you may bring a sealed brown paper bag of items to exchange with another member. The item(s) in the bag can be anything that fits in a standard brown paper bag. The idea is that the item(s) will be a challenge for another member to photograph. Two images may be submitted for viewing at our March meeting. Any form of post processing or editing is allowed. Have fun!



Program Photos by Brian Crangle

Bill Lockington on Fogo Island

Bill Lockington was at the January meeting to tell us about his visits to Fogo Island, Newfoundland Labrador. He was accompanied by three visitors, sisters who lived on Fogo Island for a good part of their lives, and still have strong connections there.



I'm In Charge



Ready to Start



Bill Lockington and the Sisters from Fogo Island

Notices and Information

The Clothesline

Please bring your un-framed prints to Paul Macklin so he can pin them on the Clothesline for the duration of the meeting.

The Journal

Have a question about photography, your camera, settings, or another photography-related issue? There is a journal available at each meeting for you to jot down your question, and someone in the PPS will get back to you with assistance shortly.

Do You Need Help With Computer Work?

Any member who needs assistance with the computer aspects of photography may feel free to approach our Web Master, George Giarratana, at any meeting, for advice and assistance. Issues with post-processing, cropping, preparing photos for export, etc., are the things that George can help you with.

February Outings

Breakfast Outing

February 10th

Promise Rock

Regular Outing

February 24th

Jackson Park

PLEASE NOTE!!

The Due Date for submitting photos for the monthly slide shows has changed.

You must send in your photos, via the appropriate Dropbox links, by Midnight on the Tuesday one week before the PPS Meeting.

Preparing the slide shows is time-consuming, and this will allow the Projectionist more time to complete the slide shows in his always professional manner.

THANK YOU!



Location Challenge By Pat Carpenter

Stay Warm, Inside!

Hello Everyone,

This is just a reminder to make sure your photos for the Challenge for February, a single flower, are in by midnight January 30th. Remember to submit to the miscellaneous Dropbox.

At the meeting, please take a minute, when your image is shown, to explain your picture. The next challenge, which is due in April, is the Murray St. Baptist Church. Take time to wander around (outside, please). There are a lot of interesting opportunities. It is on Murray Street, just opposite the Armouries.

One image only per member, to be submitted to the miscellaneous Dropbox no later than midnight, March 27th, 2018. Thanks to all who have participated. There are certainly a lot of different ideas and the results are encouraging and enjoyable.

Cheers, Pat





Outings By Dave Duffus

Let's See What We Can Find

BREAKFAST OUTING:

February 10th: The Breakfast Outing will be to Promise Rock. A map of the parking area is included on the next page. We will leave the parking area 8:30 a.m., cross the road, and see what we can find. The trail meets up with the bike trail to Lakefield, so there are a lot of photographic opportunities. Breakfast location TBD.

REGULAR OUTING:

February 24th: The Regular Outing will be at Jackson Park. We will meet at Jackson Park at 8:30. Park in the main lot at Parkhill and Monaghan.

PLEASE NOTE

If there is any member who cannot attend an Outing because they need a ride, please let me know and arrangements can be made. This year you should get to at least one Outing. It is a great opportunity to get photos and learn something new from other photographers. And they are a lot of fun!

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



Dave's Outing to Beavermead did not have a very promising start. Photos courtesy of George G.



Outings Cont'd



Promise Rock Map



Outing Photos by Paul Macklin

Beavermead Park Outing





The Story Behind the Photo by Brian Crangle

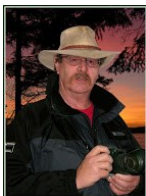
Liz

Sometimes, after all these years, both my wife and my camera still amaze me. It was a cold evening in December, and Liz and I were watching Jeopardy, as we do most evenings. Having exhausted my mental capacities by the first intermission I took out my old Nikon D5000, which I was preparing to sell. Thought to myself, "better give this a workout to ensure all is OK". As Liz was sitting to my right and there was a lamp above us, I called her name. I had cranked the ISO up to 1600 to ensure a shutter speed of 1/30 sec. One shot and a beautiful smile! I knew instantly I had a good pic. More important, so did Liz. As soon as she saw it on the screen she loved it.

Those of you who photograph your families probably know the usual responses. A little adjustment for white balance and shadow/highlight and I have a new wallet pic and a happy spouse.

Brian





The Projectionist by Terry Carpenter

IMPORTANT!

Preparing Images for Submission to the Slideshows

Please note that in the future all Image Submissions and Challenge Submissions will have a new deadline.

The Submission deadline, from now on, is midnight of the Tuesday night before the meeting.

This will allow the Projectionist to contact members in case of submitted images put in the wrong categories, etc., and will allow time to enable the re-submitting of those members' images. On average, the making of the slide shows takes from 4 to 6 hours, and these changes will allow the Projectionist a few more days to prepare these presentations.

Thanks for your co-operation in this transition.

Any questions please e-mail: ppsphotos@cogeco.ca

Cheers, Terry (Projectionist)

MEMBERS' PHOTO GALLERIES

George G., our Web Master, would like to remind everyone that there is space available on the PPS Web Site for each member to have an on-line Gallery. Every member is invited to send a selection of your favourite photos to George and he will set up a Gallery for you. Please re-size each photo to be 1024 on the long side. If you are not sure how to do this, George will be pleased to explain it you.

We would especially like to see some of our newer members contribute to the Gallery. It is a great opportunity for other members to get to see your work, and thereby, get to know you better.

If you already have a Gallery, it is probably time for you to refresh the photos, and send a new selection to George. Try to remember to do this every 3 months or so.

We are looking forward to seeing your photos!



From the Editor's desk By Judith Bain

Your Newsletter Needs You!

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

We can only continue to publish our monthly editions if we have contributions from the membership. Please contribute to the PPS by sending articles, photos, and photography-related information for inclusion in The Viewfinder. Thank you!

Image Themes

Feb.: Texture

Mar.: B&W Portrait

Apr.: From Low Angle

May: Rain

Jun.: Happiness

Equipment Sell / Swap

A table will be available at every meeting so members may display any photography-related gear that you wish to sell or trade.

Viewfinder Seeks Submissions From Members

The Viewfinder invites PPS members to submit their work for any of the following features:

- **The Story Behind My Photograph:** Send in one or more photos and the story behind them.
- **Photo Essay:** Send in a series of 5-7 photographs on a topic or location.
- **Insights:** If you would like to contribute an essay with photos on anything to do with photography, you are welcome to send it to us.
- **The Parting Shot:** Send in an amusing or interesting photo that you have taken.

The Photos contained in this issue of The Viewfinder remain the copyright property of the respective photographers. All Rights are Reserved to the Photographers.

Do not copy or use in any way without the express permission of the Photographer.

Thank you.

February Meeting

Tuesday, February 6th

7:00 PM

@ the Lions Centre,
347 Burnham Street,
Peterborough, ON.



Featured Photographer: Guy Ridgway

The Compelling Image!!

The photographic part of my life didn't start with a still camera, but with a movie camera. I started out in the late 1960s making movies with three of my neighbourhood friends. These were full-scale adventures for us that resulted in very campy, cliché, but perfect epics. Headshots were filmed from below looking up at a distraught face to add drama. One of our dads would drive us from our Agincourt street to the Greenwood Conservation Area to catch an early Sunday morning fog to film a war story. That too-brief time pushed me towards SLR photography and the Asahi Pentax Spotmatic SP11. I spent part of my teen years capturing images in and around Toronto using that cherished instrument. Film and prints were developed in the basement darkroom built by my father. The 1973 monochrome image outside the Unionville train station was shot with the Spotmatic SP11.



Featured Photographer: Guy Ridgway cont'd

Through subsequent years of distracting pursuits (physics and engineering at University of Toronto, and working at General Electric, Peterborough) interests wandered elsewhere. The darkroom was dismantled and I ignored photography until I purchased a Canon 20D in late 2004, and yes, that was 31 years after the Unionville image was taken. That's when things picked up and I spent more time trying to learn the nuances of the photographic process and go beyond point-and-shoot basics. But, there were always forces competing for attention and progress was slow.

Marrying Caroline in 1991 meant spending my life with an artist, and thereby developing a particular way of looking at the world. It's all about composition, design basics, and light and shadow. I am inspired by a compelling photographic image, the one that simply can't be ignored.



Guy's Studio

Featured Photographer: Guy Ridgway cont'd

Things changed considerably once I acquired a Canon 5D Mk III around early March, 2014. Since then, everything, up until recently, has involved landscapes, basic astrophotography, and a bit of macro. Our 2015 Newfoundland trip was where I first started to get the kinds of images I really wanted through post-processing with Lightroom CC.

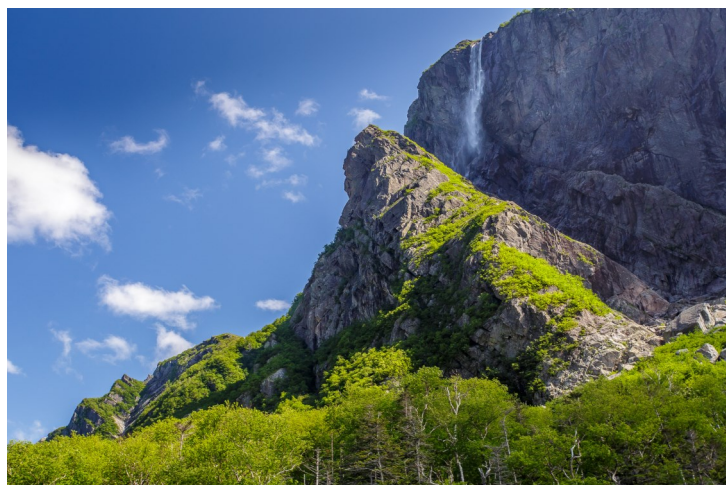


About two years ago Caroline made an off-hand remark that it would be fun to try still life oil painting in the style of the old masters. I thought this was a brilliant idea, and we were both excited by this possible change in artistic direction. She had heard about the chiaroscuro techniques used by Caravaggio and Da Vinci from her art teacher, and I replied, "What technique, you say?". After searching the term "chiaroscuro", it occurred to me that this must be a technique that lends well to photography to achieve the same rich interplay between light and shadow that the Dutch masters had achieved in their still-life paintings. Looking into it further brought the term "tenebrism" to my attention, which is a very dramatic form of chiaroscuro.

Featured Photographer: Guy Ridgway cont'd

I found that searching the photographic possibilities of both terms with respect to still-life imaging often resulted in one professional's work that caught my attention immediately: Harold Ross. Harold is a photographer living in Pequea, Pennsylvania. His still life photos were exactly what I was seeking - the compelling image! It was as if I had found someone who had read my mind, and when I discovered that he offered weekend courses covering the details of a technique that he had spent over thirty years developing, I was hooked. I informed Caroline one morning that I was intending to sign on for one of Harold's workshops, and isn't that totally exciting? She took it well, but it was apparent I had stolen her idea. Once she saw the kind of results I'd be chasing, however, she was all for it.

At the end of April 2017, I was one of four students to attend Harold's weekend workshop. It turned out to be an intensive undertaking for me, with a Friday afternoon start to discuss rules of composition and what to expect for the remainder of the course. The actual work needed to create a single image extended over the next two days at about 10 hours per day. One day was spent shooting multiple images of a single still-life composition of our own making, using a small flashlight in a dark studio. The second day was spent putting those images together in Photoshop CC to create the final "masterpiece": in my case the chalice with grapes.



Featured Photographer: Guy Ridgway cont'd



Before entering the course I had decided I would create a small still-life studio at home, acquire Harold's custom-designed lighting components, the hardware and software needed for tethered image capture, and get serious about my new-found art. I'm still very much in a learning pattern with everything to do with my still-life photography, and the images you see here represent my first baby steps. Still life will be part of my new photographic passion and I intend to continue on this path for many years to come.



As well, Caroline and I both engage in this process. She snaps each long exposure during the image capture session while I perform the specific lighting techniques taught by Harold Ross. During our almost daily coffee runs, Caroline and I most often talk about our future plans for our respective artistic pursuits.

As a secondary passion, I can see a future in long exposure black-and-white architecture and city-scapes with advanced post-processing. I see this as an excellent way to hone Photoshop skills to achieve dramatic results and develop a very personal style.



Featured Photographer: Guy Ridgway cont'd

Finally, lately I've been considering the prospect of creating manipulation compositions to perhaps be the shortest path to mastering the intricacies of Photoshop. I'm impressed with what I see online by the masters of this particular art (Andhika Zanuvar, for example). I get as much out of post processing an image as I do learning the technical aspects of composing and executing the shot in the first place.

I feel the directions I hope to pursue in my craft will lead to what I'm truly after: that satisfying, creative feeling that you get when you pick up a newly printed work of art, suspend it on a wall, and honestly say, "I could do no better". At that point you hope to have achieved something approaching that ultimate goal - the compelling image.



Featured Photographer: Guy Ridgway cont'd





News by Margaret Hamilton

Art Exhibit
Teresa Mailath & Margaret Hamilton
At
Revive Hair Lounge
73 Hunter Street, East, Peterborough, Ontario
Saturday, February 10, 2018
6:00 p.m. 'til 9:00 p.m.
PLEASE JOIN US



The Three-Six Kitchen and Lounge is a restaurant in the Bowmanville area. The management is looking for artists who would like to hang some of their work in the dining room. You may sell your work and they will take no commission. This is a great opportunity to display and possibly sell some of your beautiful photos.

Please contact via email at manager@threesixkitchen
<https://www.facebook.com/threesixkitchen/>



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Editorial

Editor: Judith Bain

Departments

President's Message: Margaret Hamilton

Program Notes: Anita Erschen-Pappas

Outings: Dave Duffus

The Projectionist: Terry Carpenter

The Challenge: Pat Carpenter

Contributors

George Giarratana, Guy Ridway, Lawrence Wicks, Brian Crangle, Paul Macklin

PPS Executive

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Vice-President: Claude Denis

Secretary: Pat Carpenter

Treasurer: Kathryn Danford

Past-President: George Dimitroff

Outings Director: Dave Duffus

Program Director: Anita Erschen-Pappas

Membership Director: Dawn Macklin

Member-at-Large: Paul Macklin

Member-at-Large: Brian Crangle

Projectionist: Terry Carpenter

The Viewfinder Editor: Judith Bain

Website & Social Media

Director: George Giarratana



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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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, photos, articles, poetry, ideas, and your humour, here at:

ppsviewfinder@gmail.com.

You can also visit our website at:

www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com.

We're also on Facebook! You can find us at:

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The Parting Shot By Lawrence Wicks

