

The Viewfinder



President's Message By Claude Denis

Self Critique

Our speaker in November was Randy Romano, who's talk took me back to a time where I was both more critical of my work and studied the masters of photography in order to improve my images. When I had a dark room, I had a large Ansel Adams print above my work station. I used it as an inspiration, and aspired to reach that level in all my printing. After Randy's talk, I watched for my photos as they came up in Terry's slideshow. What I saw surprised me. Some of my photos were good, some average, and some just didn't make the cut. The good ones I would be proud to print and show to friends and family. The average ones were examples of something that had potential and the next time, I would take the opportunity to shoot it a little differently. The bad ones were there because I felt I needed to complete my submissions, whether they were worthy or not.

Randy's talk has inspired me to look further into what makes a great photo. As he pointed out, after I take my personal emotion out of it, does the photo still have merit? Here are a few points I have found in my searches for what makes a photo good ...

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Sharpness: This is tricky, but if it's not sharp it should be intentional. But if you meant it to be sharp it should be, especially the main subject. Tripods help reduce motion from the camera. Magnifying in live view helps to pinpoint the subject you want sharp.

Depth Of Field: Leads us to the part of the photo that is the point of interest - again, what should be sharp should be sharp.

Composition: This is where you tell a story with one photo. The rule of thirds can help guide you to the main point of interest. But this is an ability that only comes from practice and critiquing your own and others' photos.

Personal Style: This is when a photo reflects who you are. I have mentioned before that I can often recognize who took a photo by their style.

These are just a few ideas in what is an endless journey to improve our craft, and to look at photos with a more critical eye ...

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Program Notes By Guy Ridgway

November Speaker

Randy Romano's November presentation, "**Creating Meaningful Photographs**", delivered a fascinating discussion about how to go beyond the typical snapshot. He addressed several issues that often prevent photographers from attaining a higher level that will get their images noticed. In particular, how to recognize your best photographs, the importance of studying the masters, and how we don't always have to dwell so much on technical perfection.

Along these lines Randy's talk got me thinking about some notable quotes:

A camera didn't make a great photo any more than a typewriter wrote a great novel - Peter Adams

There is a vast difference between taking a picture and making a photograph – Robert Heinecken

Fear is the thing that prohibits a lot of photographers from reaching their full potential – Collin Pierson

Randy has kindly provided his list of those master photographers he has found to be most inspirational in his photographic pursuits. It can be found on the PPS website under PPS Program Calendar > Speakers Notes (<http://www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com/speakers-notes/>).

This is a selection of some of the best artists in their fields, both historical and modern. Randy has also included a summary of tips and techniques that clearly identify problems that get in the way of advancing one's skillset, along with their solutions.

This was part one of a two-part presentation by Randy. Be sure to attend the January 7th meeting where Randy will talk about "**Documentary Street Photography**".

December Meeting: Five-Slide Essay

As tradition would have it, December 3rd marks our Christmas festive meeting. Be sure to come an hour and a half early (5:30p) to enjoy pot-luck offerings before we begin our 7:00 p.m. meeting. There is no speaker that evening, but rather, our annual "**Members' Five-Slide Essay**" presentation.

The Essay is a collection of five images that are placed in a specific order to tell about a progression of events, emotions, or concepts. It's like a normal essay, but translated into photographic images. It could be about: a special family event such as a birthday or reunion, a day in the life of a family member or friend, a place, or places, that you've visited, a hobby or pastime that you enjoy most, a series of wildlife or pet images, etc. It can be light-hearted or serious, funny or sad, or thought-provoking, which means it can be just about anything you throw your imagination at. Want some inspiration or ideas? Just search the Web for "Photo Essays".

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Program Notes Continued

The slide show can only contain five images, plus one title slide and one ending slide for a total of seven slides. The photos can be put to music, or you can talk about them. They can be made into a slide show or presented individually, so long as it doesn't contain more than five images.

Please refer to page 9 of this newsletter to get instructions on submitting your slide shows.



Egads! “This is My Photo” has morphed into “This is My Photography!”

That's right! Starting January 7th, the bi-monthly five-minute member presentation, “**This Is My Photo**”, will become “**My Photography**”.

The difference is that instead of simply presenting one or two photographs and talking about them, a PPS member will be able to talk about anything they wish, so long as it relates to photography. This means a five-minute talk about a workshop, a travel location, a special piece of equipment, shooting techniques, post-processing software and methods, or pretty much anything of a photographic nature. Of course, it can still be about a single photograph. The only conditions are that you must keep it to less than five minutes in length, and make it about some aspect of your photography that you want others to know about.

Remember how much you enjoyed “Show and Tell” in public school? Well here's your chance to re-live those glory days! It's easy. When you love your craft, you want to tell the world about it, right? **Have fun with it and give it your best shot.**

Are you as thrilled about this as I am? Contact me via PPSPrograms@gmail.com to tell me how you want to contribute.

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Program Notes Continued



Here's Wishing Everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The Clothesline

The Clothesline is a place where you can display your photo prints at any meeting. Bring your un-framed prints to either of our Members-At-Large, Anita Erschen-Pappas or George Gillespie, and they will have them pinned on the line for the duration of the meeting.

Each meeting will also feature a **Buy & Sell** table.

Do You Need Help With Computer Work?

Any member who needs help 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.

If you are new to the PPS, I encourage you to contact me with any questions about the program and especially invite you to participate in all available activities and outings. We are always looking for people willing to give a talk on their favourite photographic subjects.

Everyone, let's get out and shoot! We want to see, and hear about, your images!



Program Photo by Brian Crangle



Guy Ridgway thanks Randy Romano, Photo by Brian Crangle



Smoke Workshop Photo by Paul Macklin





Photo Essay by Teresa Glover

Back Yard Photography

I started taking photos of chipmunks and red squirrels in my backyard about 3 years ago. I use props to hide the food and get my photos. I always send the photos to the Weather Network just for the fun of it and have several times had up to 15,000 views. This is my retirement hobby and I just enjoy being outside and watching the wildlife while having some fun at the same time.

The Weather Network contacted me to do a little write-up on me and my photos, and I have attached the link below.

<https://www.theweathernetwork.com/ca/news/article/pov-feature-teresa-glover-meet-the-woman-behind-these-incredible-photos>

Teresa Glover



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Photo Essay Continued



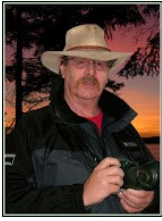


Photo Submissions By Terry Carpenter

September Outing Submissions

Hi Folks

Just a reminder to let you know your Five-slide Essay show should be sent to the SLIDESHOW DROPBOX and the Challenge Images should be sent to the MISCELLANEOUS DROPBOX, no later than midnight on the last Tuesday before the meeting (November 26th). Thanks for your cooperation.

Cheers Terry

2019 - 20 PHOTO THEMES

December: Simplicity
January: Long Exposure
February: Moody Landscape
March: Nature's Abstract
April: Shadows
May: The Colour Purple
June: Peeling Paint

THEME

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/PI6Ct9ao0FD4tGh0RVVZ>

PHOTOGRAPHERS CHOICE

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/WrXhXynE8oSkHJISeg8L>

PPS OUTINGS

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/DTXwY3DZUnvx5pTkhplr>

SLIDE SHOW SUBMISSION

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/nAkecveBGzbcFn70ayqL>

BREAKFAST OUTING

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/LPHwISzKKDx48tcckF5R>

PPS MISCELLANEOUS FILES

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/YgrspDAPCXQWEZLsqqaI>



Outings By Dave Duffus

December Outings

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

Breakfast Outing: December 15th

NOTE this is a **Sunday**. Jackson Park. We will meet at the main entrance parking lot straight off Monaghan Road at 9 a.m. Breakfast location TBD.

Regular Outing: December 7th

Lang Pioneer Village Christmas by Candlelight. Admission is \$15:00, \$10:00 for Seniors. We can meet at 5 p.m. at the village. Dress for the weather & a tripod will be handy.

December Outings

Breakfast Outing

December 15th

Jackson Park

Regular Outing

December 7th

Lange Pioneer Village

If you are unable to drive, or you need a lift to an Outing, please be sure to call another PPS Member, who will be attending the Outing, and ask for a ride.

There will always be someone available to help.



Location Challenge By Brian Crangle

Lock 20

Hi Friends,

Just a reminder, as this edition of the ViewFinder reaches you, don't forget to submit your Challenge pics to Terry. The theme is Lock 20 in Beavermead Park. Images should be in the miscellaneous Dropbox file and the deadline is the same as all other photo submissions. At the December meeting you will have a chance to show and talk about your image. I will also announce the next challenge at that meeting.

Cheers, Brian



Member News - Don't Forget these Exhibits!

There is an exhibit up at the Elmhirst's Resort featuring the photography of Judith Bain, Phyllis Watson, and Carl Welbourn. This exhibit will be up until the end of December. Elmhirst's is located just east of Keene. This exhibit has just been extended to the end of March.

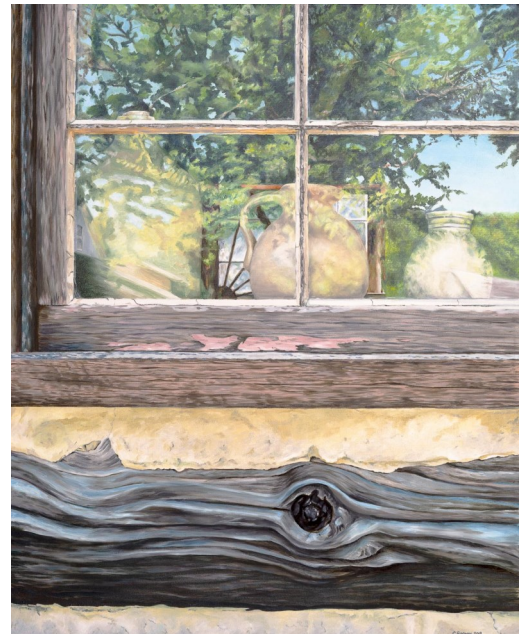


"Gone Camping", by Judith Bain

Guy and Caroline Ridgway are presenting a dual media art show, *Palette & Pixels*, at Hunter Street Books until January 31st. The bookstore, located at 164 Hunter Street West, Peterborough, is open Monday through Thursday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., on Friday from 11a.m. - 5 p.m., and on Saturday 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



"Red Wine and Shallot", by Guy Ridgway



"Fife's Cabin, Lang", by Caroline Ridgway

Notices

Christmas

We will have a Christmas 'celebration' similar to the one we had last year.

We will have finger foods of both the savoury and sweet varieties. We need to know who will attend prior to the regular meeting. It will begin at 5:30 p.m., and our regular meeting will start as usual at 7 p.m.

Please e-mail Margaret Hamilton at marghamilton@nexicom.net, or phone her at 705-874-0565, or contact Anita Pappas at anitaepappas@gmail.com or phone her at 705-957-1738 with the following information:

Will you be attending? Will you be bringing your partner?

Will you provide a savoury or a sweet finger food?

It's our hope to have an even balance of both varieties.

This year we will begin our 'celebration' at 5:30 pm and there will be a cash bar from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

Coffee, tea, and water will be available as well.





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!

Please Note: If you like to participate in photo contests, please look at this web site: <https://www.photocontestinsider.com/>

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 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 a an entertaining photo that you have taken.

December Meeting

Tuesday, December 3rd
7:00 p.m.

@ the Lions Centre,
347 Burnham Street,
Peterborough

The Viewfinder

Editorial

Editor: Judith Bain

Columns

President's Message: Claude Denis

Program Notes: Guy Ridgway

Outings: Dave Duffus

The Location Challenge: Brian Crangle

This is My Photo: Guy Ridgway

Word Images: Murray Palmer

Contributors

Guy Ridgway, Paul Macklin, Brian Crangle,
Judith Bain



PPS Executive, 2019 - 2020

President: Claude Denis

Vice-President: Vacant

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Kathryn Danford

Past-President: Margaret Hamilton

Outings Director: Dave Duffus

Program Director: Guy Ridgway

Membership Director: Linda Cardona

Member-at-Large: Anita Erschen-Pappas

Member-at-Large: George Gillespie

Projectionist: Terry Carpenter

Website & Social Media Director: George Giarratana

The Viewfinder Editor: Judith Bain

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@gmail.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.

www.facebook.com/PeterboroughPhotographicSocietyCanada.

Submissions to The Viewfinder

We encourage PPS 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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The Parting Shot

By Judith Bain

