

The Viewfinder



President's Message By Claude Denis

"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."

I just got back from Miller's Creek, near Bridgenorth, where I was hoping to see some birds this morning. This Spring, I started on a new photo project. Bird photos. Yes, this is not new for most of us, but this Spring, after being cooped up in the house, the idea of being out with the birds was just what the doctor ordered.

Most of my focus for this was Little Lake, which turned out to be most rewarding with all the birds showing up as the ice melted away. This gem of a lake attracts a large and varied group of birds most of which only stay long enough to await the lakes up north to thaw. My wife and I often get there late in the day before the geese are heading out to eat. The geese start to get restless with a few starting to get vocal and as more and more of them start to join in you can feel the moment is near for them to lift off. Suddenly in a great group effort with the sound of flapping wings and honking they lift and circle then slowly fall into the v-formation so common with geese.

In This Issue

- [President's Message, pp 1-3](#)
- [Program Notes, pp 4-7](#)
- [Program Calendar, p 8](#)
- [Photo Submissions, p 9](#)
- [Memberships & FB, p 10](#)
- [Story Behind the Photo, p 11](#)
- [Photo Essay, p 12-13](#)
- [Featured Photog, pp 14-18](#)
- [Member News, p 19](#)
- [Photo Contest, p 20](#)
- [Notices, p 21](#)
- [From the Editor's Desk, p 22](#)
- [Viewfinder Information, p 23](#)
- [Parting Shot, p 24](#)

It has proven to be quite a busy spot for birds, as I have seen the Redhead Ducks, Long-Tail Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Swan, and what I think might be a Horned Grebe, not to mention Red-winged Black Birds, Gulls, Crows, and so many more. The effort to get out and pick a project like birds is so rewarding in many ways. For me it's the mental rewards from spending time outside with nature... better than any drugs on the market by far.



Continued on Page 2

President's Message Continued



Continued on Page 3

President's Message Continued





Program Notes By Guy Ridgway

March Speaker – Don Komarechka

Macro Photography: The Universe at Our Feet

Don's astounding presentation, "**Macro Photography: The Universe at Our Feet**", provided a compelling view into the work of a top-flight macro photographer, covering everything from special techniques and equipment to his unique thought processes that allow him to capture such breathtaking images of the very small. The "very small" includes anything from water droplets posed on the petals of a flower to a single delicate snowflake.

Especially intriguing was his use of UV light to draw out incredible patterns from crystallized compounds or from common flowers.

He showed that it's not so difficult to create a makeshift polarizing microscope or simply use a polarizing filter over a smartphone screen to get captivating images of menthol crystals.

Don's presentation was about a journey through the trials and errors and the spectacular successes he has achieved from photographically weaving jaw-dropping canvasses from a mesh of science and art.

From our members:

"My favourite speaker of the season. He had a very casual approach. Love the way he explained how to use special techniques, but without having to spend too much. The entire presentation was enjoyable overall."

"... very engaging. His images are amazing – he's an artist who uses a variety of techniques and equipment to create incredible images. Would like to have him return to talk about his other photographic interests."

Please visit Don's social venues to discover more about his extraordinary career:

Website: donkom.ca

Facebook: facebook.com/donkomphoto

April Speaker - Michelle Valberg **April 6, 7:00 p.m.** (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

For the Love of Wildlife

Michelle Valberg is a world renowned award-winning Canadian photographer and explorer who has been telling stories with her camera for more than 30 years.

She has travelled to all continents in search of adventure and photographic opportunities. She is particularly celebrated for her passion for Canada and the Arctic.

Michelle finds art in all of nature's most intimate moments and is known for her unique ability to make relatable images of unimaginable landscapes. The world around us mirrors what we see in ourselves, she says, including our beauty, our simplicity, our complications, and our responsibilities. Nature is a part of, and reflects, who we are.

Continued on Page 5

Program Notes Continued

Michelle has exhibited her works internationally as a Canadian Nikon Ambassador. In 2011, her work was the subject of a critically acclaimed, three-month solo exhibition at the Canadian Museum of Nature. Her images appear on magazine covers and in numerous exhibitions and embassies worldwide.

Her iconic image of a Nunavut drum dancer appears on a Royal Canadian Mint coin, while her images of bears are featured on three Canada Post stamps, both first day cover and booklet. Michelle has been awarded the Louise Kamookak Medal from the Royal Canadian Geographic Society.

Michelle was named the first Canadian Geographic Photographer-in-Residence and she has self-published four books: *Look Beyond... The Faces & Stories of People Living with HIV/AIDS*; *Dare to Dream... A Celebration of Canadian Women*; *Arctic Kaleidoscope... The People, Wildlife and Ever-Changing Landscape*; and her children's book, *Ben & Nuki Discover Polar Bears*.

Michelle is a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society and an International Fellow of the Explorer's Club in New York City.

You can view Michelle's remarkable portfolios at michellevalberg.com

Facebook: facebook.com/michellevalbergphotography



Continued on Page 6

Program Notes Continued



Continued on Page 7



Program Calendar

PPS 2020-2021 Program Calendar

- ❖ The following categories comprise the monthly slideshow: **Theme**, **Outing** (see Notes, below), and **Photographer's Choice**.
- ❖ All monthly meetings are Zoom-based. For assistance please contact Linda Cardona or Guy Ridgway
- ❖ Zoom speaker presentations begin at 7:00 pm, unless noted otherwise.

Date	Speaker	Activity	Theme
Sep 01	Wayne Fisher – Architecture and Minimalism		Fruit Still Life
Oct 06	Ariel Estulin – Star and Night Photography		Complementary Colours
Nov 03	Rob Stimpson – Chasing Ernie		Through a Closed Window
Dec 01	Lydia Dotto – Great Lakes Shores		Vintage/Old
Jan 05	Colin Jarvis [UK] – Mono Moods ** 4:30 pm **		Black & White
Feb 02	Lola Reid Allin – Chile: Top to Bottom		Tools of the Trade
Mar 02	Don Komarechka – Macro Photography: The Universe at Our Feet		Upside Down
Apr 06	Michelle Valberg – For the Love of Wildlife		Reflections
May 04	Cindy Taylor – My Journey Through Travel Photography		Street Scene
Jun 01	Dave Brosha – A Planet of Light		Porches

Notes:

- ❖ Speakers and presentation dates are subject to change, with notice to members.
- ❖ Outings: One per month, each photographer chooses own location, different location each month, up to 3 images per location.



Photo Submissions By George Giarratana

Submitting Photos for Slide Shows

The following is the information you need to submit images for the Monthly slideshows at www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com

If you have any questions, suggestions or comments about the slideshow, including the music, please let me know at photos@peterboroughphotographicsociety.com

Members may submit up to three images each for monthly Theme, six images for Photographer's Choice, and up to three images for each Outing. Please note that the Theme images should be shot within the current year of the club. The deadline for submitting your images is always the Tuesday before the meeting, at midnight.

Before submitting your images they must be titled and re-sized as instructed below. Images must be JPEGs. First, select the images you wish to submit into the PPS Categories, and copy them into a folder. Re-size your images: If the image is landscape orientation (wider than tall) make the width 1024 pixels and let the height float. If portrait, make the height 768 pixels and let the width float. Correct sizing greatly improves the appearance of image titles. No cropping is required. After re-sizing them give each image a simple title, such as "Lift Locks At Sunset.jpg". DO NOT ADD YOUR NAME (the system will automatically put your name on the image for our presentation).

Go to <http://www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com/>, then to HOME, then to IMAGE SUBMISSIONS, and then to DROPBOX LINKS FOR IMAGE SUBMISSIONS. The first link you will see on this page is "Preparing Images or Video for Club Slideshows". Please click on this to find out all you need to know to submit images. Now, go back to the DROPBOX LINKS FOR IMAGE SUBMISSIONS page. Scrolling down the page you will see all the categories we use: Theme, Photographer's Choice, Breakfast Outings and Regular Outings, Member Slideshows and Video Submissions, Miscellaneous Files, and Brown Bag. Here you will also see a brief description of each category. Also, you will see each category highlighted in blue. This will be the link to click on to submit your images. Click on the blue link and this 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 (you do not need a Dropbox account and do not need to Sign In to Dropbox).

Members must not attempt to submit folders of images, even though Dropbox presents that as an option. Highlight your selected images and click on "Open" at the bottom right hand corner of the pop-up. This will direct you to a page showing you which category you have selected, will show you the images you have selected, and ask you for your name and e-mail. After typing this information click on Upload at the bottom of the page. And that is all there is to it. I know in print it sounds like 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.

SUBMISSION MUSTS: Please read and try to keep these four simple guidelines in mind when submitting your images each month.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Images must be submitted before midnight on the Tuesday one week before the monthly meeting. Images submitted after this time may not be included in the slideshow.



Memberships & Facebook by Linda Cardona

Memberships

As we continue to hold our meetings on Zoom, and host an array of fabulous speakers each month, it is a great way to invite potential members to our meetings. Remember each guest can attend one meeting free before they join PPS. If you know of someone who might like to attend a meeting, please have them send me an e-mail at ppsmembership@gmail.com

Facebook

I am very pleased to announce that Harmony Reinhardt, our newest PPS member, has joined the Facebook team. Harmony will be posting reminders for PPS key dates and information about up-coming meetings. We would love it if all members would share their pictures on our private Facebook group. We would also love to hear the details about the pictures – which camera / lens / settings / where you took the photo, etc. It is a great opportunity to both learn from each other and be inspired by each other. If you have any questions, please get in touch with me at lindacardona@sympatico.ca or Harmony at harmonyreinhardt@gmail.com. Suzanne Schroeter continues to do an amazing job of displaying new photography banners each month on both our public and private Facebook sites. Suzanne is always in need of more images, so please get in touch with Suzanne for any details at suzanne723@gmail.com



Photo by Don McLeod



The Story Behind the Photo by Brian Crangle

Winter Photography

One of the joys of winter photography is the abundance of clear backgrounds. Snow, for me, provides the opportunity for simple images. This allows an item to pop out from the picture.

While driving down to Millbrook this week, I spotted this wonderful hand-carved dog. It is about three feet tall and made of hardwood with a beautiful grain. It was also on a white snowy lawn. Eureka!

On arriving home, I put it on the screen and cropped it. I like the big, open space to the left as it appears that the dog is looking that way. For further post-processing I cloned out some spots on the snow, and I then adjusted the white balance to brighten up the white stuff. Finally I selected the carving itself and brought out the detail in the wood.

This makes a great desktop background as all the icons are on the right.





Photo Essay By Henry Christiansen

Light Box Photography

The Pandemic has forced us all to change our way of living and passing the time. Photographers should not go out and shoot in groups and the winter weather tends to put a chill in our photographic vim and vigour.

I enjoy doing indoor studio macro photography. I thought I would take on a new and different project. Harold Davis is a professional photographer who has championed back-lit light box photography to get interesting results. He also uses conversions to Lab Colour to get further effects.

I ordered some dried flowers from Amazon. They cost about \$30. I have an old slide sorter that has been idle for some time. It worked as my strong white back light. I laid it on the floor and set the camera up to shoot directly down at the light source. I arranged the dried flowers on a sheet of glass. Each flower is no larger than 1" in diameter. I laid another piece of glass over the flowers to hold them in place, otherwise they would have blown away with the slightest breath. About seven exposures were taken favouring the lightest exposures. These were brought into Lightroom and opened in Photoshop as layers.

In Photoshop, the layers were combined using several Layer Masks to combine the best information for all the flowers from the lightest to the darkest. A bit of Curves and some Dodging and Burning and the image was complete.



Continued on Page 13

Photo Essay Continued

The next two images were derived from the first image by changing the Colour Space from RGB to Lab Colour (Image > Mode > Lab Colour). Lab Colour has three channels. The “L” Channel is Lightness. The “a” Channel is Magenta – Green. The “b” Channel is “Blue – Yellow”.

I selected the “L” Channel and then produced the second image by doing an inversion on this channel by selecting only this channel and Inversion (Image > Adjustments > Invert). This produced the second image.

For the final image, I selected all the channels and then did an inversion on all the channels by selecting all the channels and Inversion (Image > Adjustments > Invert). This produced the third image.

After some fine-tuning and time, I was pleased with the results. I don't think they are anything special, but they are something different and provided an interesting challenge.





Featured Photographer

Erin Burrell

I was born in North York, Toronto, but I was raised in Orangeville, a small town (at the time) about an hour north-west of Toronto. Growing up, I remember being so fascinated with the feelings that came to me when looking at photos.

My mother had many photos from when my siblings and I were kids. I would love it when we pulled out the photo albums and reminisced about the memories. I also enjoyed taking photos with my mom's Canon film camera. It was then that I began to understand the power of photography.

Through high school, my interest flourished when I took communications technology. It was there that I learned the basics of Photoshop, among other things. I also had the opportunity to take part in the creation of the school's year-book when I was in grade 11.

When it came time to choose my path after high school, I convinced myself that photography, to me, was a hobby. I didn't think of it as a career choice. In 2008, I began my college career at Humber in the Child and Youth Worker Program. I chose this program because, as I learned in photography, I had a passion for helping others. I continued taking photos as a hobby. I had a Fuji bridge camera that I loved to use to take nature and landscape photos. I graduated in 2011 and began my job in residential treatment as a counsellor.

After a couple of years, the stress of the job took a toll on me so I stopped working there. Throughout this time I was working at the pool as a life guard and swim instructor. I fell back on that and turned to recreation as another career choice. I enrolled in Humber again in 2013 for Recreation and Leisure studies.



Continued on Page 15

Featured Photographer Continued

I continued to travel during that time, going to places such as Dominican Republic, Michigan, Las Vegas, and China. All of these trips I photographed and they continue to hold special memories for me. By this point, I had acquired the Canon Rebel 3Ti. It was the first DSLR I had ever had. The most memorable trip for me was to Newfoundland in 2014.

My grandmother (she was known to me as “Nanny”, for anyone who is from the Rock) was born in Newfoundland. When I arrived there with my best friend, one thing led to another and we connected with relatives that I never knew about. They were so happy to see me, and so welcoming. They took me to Keels, a small village where my Nanny was born. I took pictures of the place, thinking I was just going to do another scrapbook. When I returned home, I showed the photos to my mom, and she went into her albums and pulled out an album from the last time she was in Keels, more than 35 years earlier. I paused on one photo that she had, depicting water spraying up between the rocks on the shoreline. I compared it to a photo I took on my trip and sure enough, I was standing in pretty well the same spot my mother had. Again, I was seeing the power of photography and its impact on our lives.

In 2015, I was asked by my best friend to take photos of her getting ready for her wedding. It was my first time ever doing this sort of thing, so I started watching Youtube videos and reading articles. I never thought of shooting professionally, as I've always done it as a hobby. After the wedding, I was approached by another friend of a friend who asked me to photograph her friend's wedding, as the photographer had backed out. It was my first full-length wedding. I was nervous, but again I worked through it. I slowly started getting more bookings over the years.

I up-graded to a Canon 6D and a Canon M5 mirrorless camera. I started shooting various projects, and this enabled me to start my own business.



Continued on Page 16

Featured Photographer Continued



In 2016, I met Andrew, who is now my husband. While we were dating, he learned very quickly that I always kept my camera with me and to be prepared to pull over at any time I saw a bird or other creature while we were out. He introduced me to the world of Jeep enthusiasts and off-roading. He was always game to find a new location to explore to give me an opportunity to take photos.



In 2017, I took a job as the Assistant Aquatic Coordinator at the City of Kawartha Lakes, and moved to Peterborough permanently. Shortly after moving, I was contacted by a magazine based in Lindsay, Ontario called the Lindsay Advocate. They were looking for a photographer and came across my work. I agreed and I've been proudly part of their team for 4 years and counting. I credit the Advocate with helping me get to know the Kawarthas, learning about the community, and using photography to get there.



In 2018, I got engaged on the beach in Daytona while on another road trip. I spent most of this trip taking pictures of all the modified jeeps that were on display. Andrew has always been a major supporter and advocate for my photography. He is my biggest fan and I will be forever grateful. I was married in 2019 after the birth of my daughter Chloe. I spent most of 2019 photographing her. Throughout this time, I still shot on a part-time basis, mostly family portraits and jeep adventures. In 2020, I was hired by EH Media to photograph the TMR Customs off-road race series. These are heavily modified off-road rigs bombing through the bushes. The photography is fun as things are changing constantly, but it's the people I meet who keep me coming back!

Continued on Page 17

Featured Photographer Continued

I joined the Peterborough Photographic Society in 2019 to learn more about photography and to get to know Peterborough. It's been wonderful listening to the speakers and getting to know all the wonderful people who are a members of this group.

As with many businesses, I took a break, as COVID had been hard on me. Life at the pool has ramped up and with a toddler running around, I haven't had much time to pick up my camera. For the first time in months, I took a picture of the moon. I felt the same spark I get whenever I'm out shooting. I still plan to shoot the races this up-coming summer (COVID permitting). In addition, Andrew and I expect to have our 2nd child in September. With a lot coming up, I'm sure there will be more stories to capture and more memories to preserve.



Continued on Page 19

Featured Photographer Continued



Member News

Photography Workshop

Lydia Dotto is offering her “Wildlife and EcoTravel Photography” seminar through Trent University’s Continuing Education program at the end of April. Due to pandemic restrictions, this course will be offered on-line for the first time. You can find the details and registration information here:

<https://trentucontinuinged.corsizio.com/c/601acaf147a6d976828e7a72>

This course consists of two modules containing five hours of video presentations.

- April 19-23 - view Module 1 videos on your own schedule
- April 24 - interactive question period/discussion on Zoom from 1:00 - 2:30 pm EDT
- April 26-30 - view Module 2 videos on your own schedule
- May 1 - interactive question period/discussion on Zoom from 1:00 - 2:30 pm EDT



**WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY
& ECOTOURISM**

**JUST
\$130**

TRENT UNIVERSITY
CONTINUING EDUCATION

NOW OFFERED ONLINE

Photo Contest!

The Lakefield Trail Stewardship Committee invites people to help celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Lakefield Trail in 2021 by entering your photos in a [year-long photo contest](#).

“It has always been a very well-used recreational trail, but this year it has been critical infrastructure in our village,” says Bruce Bellchambers, Chair of the Lakefield Trail Stewardship Committee. “Physical and mental health is so important and our trail is accessible for all to enjoy.”

The Lakefield Millennium Trail opened in 2000 as way to celebrate the new millennium and the 125th anniversary of the Village of Lakefield. So many natural and historic locations along the trail result in wonderful photo opportunities.

The Lakefield Trail photo contest will run for all four seasons of 2021. Photos must be taken with at least one foot on the Trail and then e-mailed lakefieldtrailphotocontest@gmail.com



Notices

Outings

Outings
are
On Your Own
and
At Your Convenience

THEME

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/bPYd3c9adqfXlOfHT2Bg>

PHOTOGRAPHER'S CHOICE

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/rFJf6AJYhx7p5OaqAaaO>

REGULAR OUTINGS

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/gvt47J5XOkzngcFKBFly>

BREAKFAST OUTINGS

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/pacpHj3UezS1cuoJchcA>

MEMBER SLIDE SHOWS AND VIDEOS

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/CNjrOWgqC4o3Zu8ixDVO>

MISCELLANEOUS FILES

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/86CXhKvxLCPtXRKgfndI>

BROWN BAG

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/N3ZwiIwkSeHLOWngB5uN>

Themes

Apr.: Reflections

May: Street Scene

June: Porches

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.

photos@peterboroughphotographicsociety.com



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!

April Meeting

To Be Held Virtually
Using
ZOOM

April 6th, 2021
7:00 p.m.

Doors Open @ 6:30 p.m.

Viewfinder Seeks Submissions From Members

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

- The Story Behind the Photo:** 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.

The Viewfinder



Editorial

Editor: Judith Bain

Columns

President's Message: Claude Denis

Program Notes: Guy Ridgway

Photo Submissions: George Giarratana

Membership & FB: Linda Cardona

Contributors

Brian Crangle, Henry Christiansen, Lydia Dotto, Erin Burrell, Don McLeod

PPS Executive, 2019 - 2020

President: Claude Denis

Vice-President: Vacant

Secretary: Guy Ridgway (Acting)

Treasurer: Kathryn Danford

Past-President: Margaret Hamilton

Outings Director: Vacant

Program Director: Guy Ridgway

Membership Director: Linda Cardona

Social Media Director: Linda Cardona

Member-at-Large: Vacant

Member-at-Large: Vacant

Projectionist: George Giarratana (Acting)

Web Master: 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.

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.

All content remains the intellectual property of the creators, and copyright is held by them. It may not be copied, reproduced, printed, modified, published, up-loaded, down-loaded, posted, transmitted, or distributed in any way without written permission.



The Parting Shot

By Brian Crangle

