

VIEWFINDER



Volume 49 No 1

August 2009

President's Message

Kas Stone, August 2009



As I write this season's welcoming message, I'm watching yet *another* rainstorm dump itself over Etobicoke and wondering why I recently invested in a new polarizing filter rather than underwater housing for my camera! I hope some of you managed to escape to holiday locations in drier climates this summer, and I look forward to seeing the photographic results of your travels during the coming year. As for the rest of us, we can at least console ourselves that our images won't be spoiled by harsh sunlight and deep shadows!

Members of the ECC Board have been busy on your behalf this summer, putting together a terrific lineup of presentations, seminars and outings for year ahead, revising the Rules of Competition to accommodate recent changes in the competition structure, and purchasing some wonderful new projection equipment to wow the judges with your images.

Our programming tradition of entertainment and education continues, with invited guests and senior members leading many exciting sessions. Some evenings we will be transported to far-flung places like Peru, Paris, Namibia, Iceland, Malta, Tuscany and the American Southwest. On other evenings we'll be inspired by seminars about creative in-camera techniques, photographic design, digital how-to's, and portraiture. And our artistic and technical skills will be challenged regularly during image critique and competition nights.

A "Learning the Ropes" orientation evening will be held in early November to help new members wishing participate in club activities. The mentoring program will continue, providing novice members with one-on-one or small-group coaching with photographic and club administrative matters.

You may remember that an "Advanced" competition division is being added this year between Intermediate and Superset. Many of our more experienced Intermediate members will be invited to move into this division, making competitions fairer for the less experienced and brand new members. A simpler system of advancement from one division to the next has also

been instituted, based on aggregate scores during the year rather than on the administratively complex system of scores-and-points previously used. You will find details in the new Rules of Competition, which come into effect at the start of the season with Photographer's Choice #1 in October.

A new competition is being introduced to the lineup this season. The "Creative" competition will challenge us to think beyond the viewfinder and use our imagination and our technical skills (in camera and/or in Photoshop) to produce more experimental images that reflect an "altered reality". For details of what is and is not acceptable in this category please read the new Rules of Competition.

Thanks to your generosity during our fundraising efforts last year, we were able to purchase the state-of-the-art Canon REALiS SX80 digital projector earlier in the summer, and are in the process of buying a new laptop to go with it. Our equipment team will be setting up and calibrating the system prior to the start of the season so that everything is running smoothly. However please remember that a new system, no matter how good it is, may not project *exactly* what you are expecting to see, and colours and contrast may not be quite the same as your computers at home, so please be prepared for a period of adjustment while you adapt to it.

An exciting itinerary of Outings is planned for the coming year, with visits to Spencer Gorge, Riverwood Conservation Area, the Cheltenham Badlands, a return trip to the Toronto Zoo, and something completely new this year – an evening downtown in December, photographing Christmas lights. Stay tuned for more information as the season progresses.

Keep up to date with all our Club's programs, competitions and outings, and find membership forms, how-to information and lots of useful links on our website at www.etobicokecameraclub.org. The Members Only section is a particularly valuable resource, with notes from past seminars and access to a full gallery of competition images.

The 2009-2010 season at the Etobicoke Camera Club begins on September 14th with what will undoubtedly be a stunning presentation by Ray and Mary Ann Anderson. I look forward to seeing you again then, and to sharing Monday evenings of photographic fun with all of you in the year ahead!

Summary of Changes to Competitions for 2009-10

Diane Sawatzky



The following changes to the Rules of Competitions were accepted by the Board at the August 10, 2009 meeting.

Editor's note: Many thanks to members of the image evaluation committee and in particular, Diane Sawatzky, for all the great work done to improve our rules of competition.

1. Competition Divisions

ECC has three divisions in which members compete:

- Intermediate
- Advanced
- Superset

The **Intermediate Division** is intended for beginner to intermediate photographers. New members who have achieved standing in another camera club will be placed in Advanced or Superset at the discretion of the Evaluation Directors.

The advancement process from Intermediate to Advanced and from Advanced to Superset Divisions is based on the total aggregate points scored upon completion of the six regular competitions, i.e., the total point scores of all digital entries submitted (prints are excluded). For example, if 3 images are submitted for each competition and each image scored 20 points, the total aggregate points for the year would be 360 points (3 images x 6 competitions = 18 images x 20 points each). The top performers in each competition division, i.e., with the highest total aggregate scores in the top 10%, or the 90th percentile will move to the next division.

The first year will be optional for a member who is eligible to advance, i.e., the member can choose to stay in the division for one year. If the member in the second consecutive year is eligible to advance, the advancement must occur.

We will continue to award ribbons for each competition based on the highest scoring images within each division, i.e., Gold for top image; Silver for second place and Honourable Mentions (approximately 10% of the entries). Judges will also select the 'Gold of Month' from the three division Gold winners. Although ribbons are awarded, they do not count for points towards advancement into the next division.

2. Regular Competition Categories

a) 'Scenics' is now replaced with 'Creative' as a regular category.

Creative images, for the purposes of this competition, are images that reflect an "altered reality". The image must begin as the maker's photograph of a real subject, whether captured digitally or scanned from a negative or slide. However, in this competition you are encouraged to exercise your imagination and stray as far from that real subject as you like, using design elements, colour and light in non-traditional ways to produce abstract, impressionistic and experimental effects not achievable by standard photographic means. You may do this with in-camera techniques and/or also by manipulating your images afterwards using digital post-processing software. Merely *using* these techniques is not enough, however; they must be used artfully to produce an *effective* image. Artwork and computer graphics created by the member can be incorporated as long as the photographic content predominates. Merely *using* these techniques is not enough, however; they must be used artfully to produce an *effective* image. Therefore creative photography has these elements — new composition, altered reality, and emphasized alteration.

Examples of creative techniques include: panning, zooming, lens distortion, special effects filters, montages, collages, ortons, multiple exposures, posterization, diffraction, "black light", bas relief and unusual/unrealistic colorization.

Examples that would *not* be acceptable in this competition are: images that are merely black-and-white, infrared, or sepia, or images merely captured from an unusual angle or with a fisheye lens, *unless* something *more* has been done to the image to exaggerate the effect or combine it with other effects.

b) Photographer's Choice 2

To encourage the makers to submit new images, PC2 is now limited to only new submissions versus allowing previously entered images.

3. Request for Judges' Comments

Members of the Intermediate and Advanced divisions have the option of selecting one image upon which they would like to receive judges' comments.

4. Image Size

The maximum image size is **1050** pixels along its longest dimension for competitive images to meet requirements of the club's new projector.

5. Ribbons & Award Points

Although we will continue to award ribbons, there will no longer be award points for them. Starting this season, all awards will be based upon the total points scored of the three images submitted in each regular competition. These points will count toward the total aggregate scores at the end of the competition season. The members in each division with the top 10% of the total aggregate scores, or at the 90th percentile, will advance to the next division (refer also to Section A, Competition Divisions)

Within each division, the judges will select winning images to receive a Gold Ribbon (first place), a Silver Ribbon (second place) and Honourable Mentions. The number of Honourable Mentions will represent approximately 10% of the total number of submitted images in the division. In addition, the judges will select the "Gold of the Month" from the three Gold Ribbon winners

6. Print Competitions (2 per year)

All entries will be judged together – there are no competition divisions.

7. Image of the Year

The number of entries for non-ribbon winning images has been reduced from three (3) to two (2).

8. Year End Trophies

- The McDonald Trophy for the previous top 'Tyro' member will be re-instated for the top 'Intermediate' member.
- The Carling O'Keefe Trophy previously awarded to the top 'Scenics' maker is on hold this year.

Photography Workshops with Kas Stone

Our very own Kas Stone has developed a series of workshops focusing on a variety of photographic techniques. Her daylong workshops are reasonably priced at \$75 per person. Here is her fall schedule:

Sat Oct 3, 2009

Expose Yourself ... to *F-Stops and Shutter-Speeds*.

Sat Nov 7, 2009

Compose Yourself ... to Principles of Visual Design

Sun Nov 29, 2009

Landscaping your Photographic Garden

Anyone who has seen one of Kas's presentations at our club will know the high quality of her work.

Kas is also offering one-on-one instruction on Photoshop for Photographers.

See further information and registration, see details on her website at www.kasstone.ca

One Time Invitation to Re-Instate Three Competition Divisions 2009-10

As at the end of the 2008-09 season, there were 58 members in the Intermediate Division. The following three (3) members earned the right to advance to Superset based on the advancement rules in place at that time:

- ✓ Sandra Hawkins
- ✓ David Westlake
- ✓ Alec Monro

The Board of Directors approved the following criteria that provides a fair and reasonable basis for determining which members would remain in Intermediate, who would have the opportunity to move to Advanced and who would be invited into Super Set other than the members above.

The members being invited to advance to either Advanced or Super Set have a one-time opportunity to accept or decline the advancement at the beginning of the 2009-10 season. More details on this selection will be announced at the first meeting of the season.

Criteria for Remaining in Intermediate

- ✓ Members who were new members in the 2008-09 season and scored 13 total points or less at the end of the year
- ✓ Members who were new members in the 2008-09 and scored 14 total points or more, however, did not win any ribbons

Criteria for Moving to Advanced

- ✓ Members who were new in the 2008-09 season, scored 14 total points or more and won at least 1 ribbon during the season
- ✓ Members who have been a competing member on a regular basis for at least 2 seasons

Moving to Super Set

- ✓ 3 members who have earned the right
- ✓ Plus 3 high scoring members will be invited

Please see the following table for the distribution.

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Name	Remain in Intermediate	Invited to Advanced	Move to SS	Invited to SS
ALICJA PARLAK	X			
BRAD ROBB	X			
CAROL JONES	x			
CATHERINE ROE	x			
CHRISTINE KOBIELSKI	x			
DIANE BROWN	x			
DORIS WOUDEMBERG	x			
ELLEN WILSON	x			
GREG BALLENTINE	x			
HAIRUO DAI	x			
JANET PETROCCO	x			
JOHN ANDERTON	x			
LESLEY KINCH	x			
LORRAINE BODNARYK	x			
MIKE MATTOS	x			
MIKE PAPAKON	x			
NATASHA SMILJANIC	x			
RICHARD MORENCY	x			
ROBERT RAYFIELD	x			
STEVE SMITH	x			
TATIANA BITIR	x			
ART TRACEY		x		
BRIAN QUAN		x		
CAROLYN FRANCIS-SCOBIE		x		
CATHERINE GUILLAUME		x		
CORRINE DEVERALL		x		
CORRINE SELLARS		x		
DARIO DI SANTE		x		
DAVID BODNARYK		x		
ELAINE FREEDMAN		x		
ELAINE MURDOCH		x		
ELIO PIGHIN		x		
GARY SANDERS		x		
GERALD SEWELL		x		
GUNTER HAIBACH		x		
HAYLEY HARRINGTON		x		
JACK MILNE		x		
JANET PATTERSON		x		
JEAN WALKER		x		
JOCELYN UBALDINO		x		
JUDITH SHER		x		
JUDY ROE		x		
KENNETH HARRY		x		
KIM HARRINGTON		x		
LABONI ISLAM		x		
MICHEL GAGNON		x		

NICOLAS KOLPOWSKI		X		
OLEG KOUBRAK		X		
RITA TRACEY		X		
ROD LORD		X		
TATIANA KOUBRAK		X		
VINCE ELLERY		X		
ALEC MONRO			X	
DAVID WESTLAKE			X	
SANDRA HAWKINS			X	
BOB HAWKINS				X
CHICO TAEUSCHEL				X
TERRY ROSS POULTON				X

Program 2009 – 2010



**2009/2010
Program**



Image of the Year 2008 - 2009
"Avocets"
by Sandra Hawkins

www.etobicokecameraclub.org

The **Etobicoke Camera Club** is a forum for people who enjoy a common interest in photography, where they meet to share their ideas and improve their photographic and presentation skills in a friendly atmosphere. The Club's main focus is on digital photography and prints. Everyone is invited to join, from beginners to advanced amateur photographers, and guests are always welcome.

Membership Includes:

- Educational seminars and workshops
- Entertaining presentations by members and invited guests
- Participation in competitions and informal image evaluation sessions
- Mentoring program for new members
- Canon, Nikon, and other technical support user groups
- Outings to places of photographic interest in and around the GTA
- The Viewfinder publication containing Club news, reviews and articles
- Fellowship and social events

Established in 1957, the Etobicoke Camera Club has been serving our photographic community for more than 50 years. In recent times the explosion of interest in photography brought about by digital imaging has seen our membership grow to about 140 people. To view the Club's photo gallery and learn more about our activities, programming and competitions, visit us at: www.etobicokecameraclub.org

Fees:

Individual annual membership	\$60.00
Family annual membership	\$80.00
Student annual membership	\$15.00
* Guest fee at selected meetings only	\$5.00

Meetings:

Monday evenings 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.
from September to May (except holidays)

Location:

Humber Valley United Church
76 Anglesey Boulevard, Etobicoke
(East of Islington Avenue and north of Rathburn Road)
See website for map

Contact Us:

President: 416-621-1177
Membership: 416-249-1064
Email: info@etobicokecameraclub.org

September 2009

- 14 **Presentation ***
Peru - A Diverse Landscape
Ray and Mary Ann Anderson,
Toronto Camera Club
- 21 **Presentation ***
Iceland, China, Namibia and Other Goodies
Clara Parsons, Trillium Photographic Club
- 26 **Outing** - Saturday
Spencer Gorge Tews & Websters Falls
- 28 **Seminar ***
Power of the Camera to Achieve Social Goals Andrew Stawicki,
former Toronto Star Photographer

October

- 05 **Member's Show - Point Pelee**
Bruce Lewis
● **Image Critique - Nature**
■ **Enter Images for Photographers Choice #1**
- 11 **Outing** - Sunday
Terra Cotta & Badlands
- 12 Thanksgiving - No meeting
- 17 **Outing** - Saturday
Riverwood Conservation Area - Mississauga
- 19 **Judging** - **Photographer's Choice #1**
- 26 **Seminar ***
Creating From Within
Rob Kennedy, Mississauga Camera Club
■ **Enter Images for Nature Competition**

November		
02	Seminar - ECC Orientation Learning The Ropes For New Members Presented by ECC members	
09	Judging - Nature	
16	Member's Show - Memories Diane Sawatzky ● <i>Image Critique - Architecture</i>	
18	Outing - Wednesday Silvano Color Lab	
23	Judging - Prints #1 ■ <i>Enter Prints for Judging</i> ■ <i>Enter Images for Architecture Competition</i>	
30	Presentation * Malta: Fortress to Playground Robert Shechter, Professional Photographer	
December		
07	Judging - Architecture ■ <i>Enter Images for Trios Competition</i>	
09	Outing - Wednesday Downtown & Christmas Lights	
14	Christmas Potluck and Trios Competition	
January 2010		
04	Member's Show Griffin Shorts - The Southwest Judy and Carm Griffin ● <i>Image Critique - People</i>	
11	Seminar * Good Design Makes a Better Photograph Tom Yates, Toronto Focal Forum ■ <i>Enter Images for People Competition</i>	
18	Seminar * Digital Demonstration - Basic & Advanced Presented by ECC members	
25	Judging - People	
February		
01	Member's Show The U.S. West Coast Mike Marshall ● <i>Image Critique - Creative</i>	
07	Outing - Sunday Toronto Zoo	
08	Seminar * Digital Camera Essentials Michael Willems, Professional Photographer	
15	Family Day - No meeting ■ <i>Enter Images for Creative Competition</i>	
22	Seminar * Creating an Audio Visual Show Stan Bain, Toronto Digital Photo Club	
March		
01	Judging - Creative	
08	Member's Show The Dog Walker's Weekend Elaine Freedman ● <i>Image Critique - Open Category</i>	
15	Seminar * Portraiture Techniques Vince Capizzano & Chico Tauschel, ECC ■ <i>Enter Images for Photographers Choice #2</i>	
22	Presentation * Adventures in My Little Yellow Tent Jerry Soltys, Mississauga Camera Club	
29	Judging - Photographer's Choice #2	
April		
12	Member's Show - Tuscany Dario Di Sante ● <i>Image Critique - Prints - Bring Prints</i> ■ <i>Enter Images for Image-of-the-Year</i>	
05	Easter Monday - No meeting	
19	Judging - Prints #2 ■ <i>Enter Prints for Judging</i>	
24	Outing - Saturday Hendrie Valley Wetlands	
26	Presentation Member Photo Essay Evening	
May		
10	Annual Banquet Strate's Banquet Hall 365 Evans Avenue	

Thanks to Andy Heics and Kent Wilson for putting together such a great program, and thanks to Garry Weiler for the colourful and easy to follow design. Thanks also to Rod Lord for putting the finishing touches on the program. Finally, thanks to Dario Di Sante for arranging for printing.

You can download a pdf version of the program from our website at www.etobicokecameraclub.org

Outings:

Mike Marshall and Gerry Sewall have put together another great season of outings. Please note, there are now a variety of days for the outings as per your request via the survey earlier in the year. Outing dates include Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays.

Note from the Editor:

Looks like another great season ahead !!!

As usual, if you have any comments about the Viewfinder or the website, or if you want to submit an article, please contact me (Julian Sale) via: info@etobicokecameraclub.org