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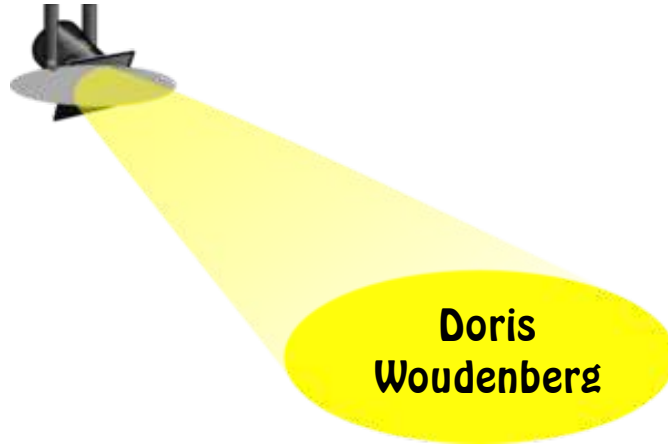
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*Viewfinder* is the Etobicoke Camera Club newsletter, currently edited and desktop published by Diane Brown ([dgbrown7@sympatico.ca](mailto:dgbrown7@sympatico.ca)) and Elaine Freedman ([elaine@freedmanandsister.com](mailto:elaine@freedmanandsister.com)).

For readers who want to know, Elaine and Diane alternate showing their photos behind the Viewfinder banner. Elaine contributed “Water is the Source” for this issue.

We’re always looking for ECC members to do short reviews of guest speaker presentations and of outings, basically answering any of these questions — What did you learn? What made the biggest impact on you? What was the most surprising thing? Since it’s a camera club, include a photo. Do let us know if you are participating in upcoming shows/exhibits or giving any upcoming photo workshops. And tell us if there's something you'd like to see in your *Viewfinder*.

## Spotlight on...



My first camera was a Kodak Brownie, which I acquired when I was 12. On a family trip to the Royal Ontario Museum, my younger brother managed to walk in front of almost every picture I took. Fortunately this never deterred me from photography.

Both my parents were avid photographers. My mother enjoyed photographing family and other people, even winning a contest with her image of a man smoking a cigarette, taken in just the right light. My father liked family and macro photography. At age 13, I was looking in the family photo album and saw my dad's pictures of buttons and Q-tips, which were larger-than-life. When I asked him about it, he answered, "You just don't understand." And that was true until later in my life, when I understood that a lot of skill was involved in getting these shots. We had a darkroom. One day, my brothers and I made a snowman. By the time we got inside, my dad had already developed a roll of film and had pictures of us in the fixer.

I have taken courses in photography over the years. One TDSB instructor told us about the Etobicoke Camera Club and suggested we join to improve our photography. Some time later, I was in a local park with my small children and new digital camera, when an ECC member suggested I come to a meeting as a guest. Needing to learn about the digital component of photography, I readily agreed. That evening was a competition, which I thoroughly enjoyed — seeing the images, hearing the scores, and trying to



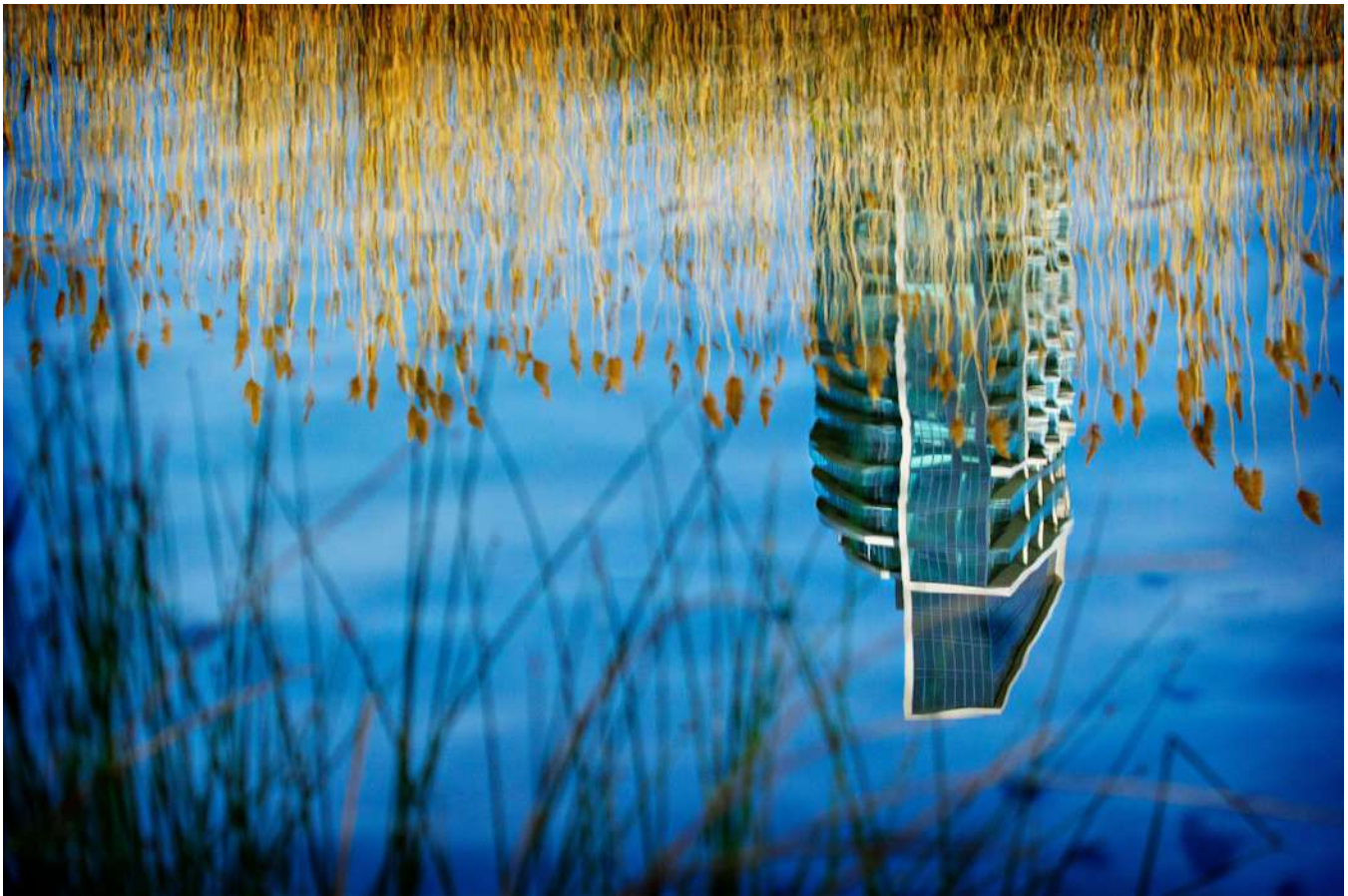
guess what the image score would be. The following September I joined.

I did not know how to edit or even that it was an option. At the beginning, I was afraid of criticism, but it was that that has brought me to my current understanding of photography. All critiquing was done in a positive manner.

ECC's mentorship program matched me up with Jean Walker and Kenneth Harry, who introduced me to Photoshop CS4. I soon purchased my first computer and started to learn the iMac operating system and Photoshop. In an online Photoshop course at George Brown College, I discovered how much fun it is. Soon my ideas frustratingly exceeded my skill level. Yet I was reluctant to ask questions because I found the answers too long and complicated. I feel 12 years later that I have an intermediate understanding of Photoshop and just love all the things that it can do.

When ECC introduced a creative competition, I was clueless as to what to do. The first three I entered, I tried just thinking outside the box using Photoshop. Every time I competed, I learned more about Photoshop. The creative competition is now my favourite, as it allows me to express my feelings. When I do succeed, I am on top of the world. Sometimes I create a picture that makes me aware of my feelings; other times I know what I want to express before I create the picture. I find both extremely satisfying.

A happy photo moment was when my entry (below) into the Greenbelt Photo Competition — depicting conflict of man and nature — was chosen as a runner up, to be printed and displayed in the McMichael Art Gallery and then go on tour.



In closing, I thank the Etobicoke Camera Club, its members, and the programs.

# Photographer's Dilemma

David duChemin

Upgrading cameras, lenses, filters, and accessories is expensive, but you've probably heard the expression "It's not the equipment that makes a good photograph, it's the photographer." David duChemin, a professional photographer and author, published an online article this year on "10 Upgrades for 2019", none of which was about equipment. (His thoughts on continually upgrading equipment are, without a doubt, worth considering.)

You can read the complete article at: <https://davidduchemin.com/2019/01/10-upgrades-for-2019/>

This is his basic list.

1. Upgrade your skills.
2. Upgrade your understanding of composition and visual language.
3. Upgrade your creative process.
4. Upgrade your willingness to make more work, to go deeper, to shoot a personal project that you push through...
5. Upgrade your ability to sit in one place and really see that place.
6. Upgrade your ability and willingness to make more sketch images—more failures and what-ifs—and less worrying about what others think...
7. Upgrade the gamut of your craft.
8. Upgrade your output.
9. Upgrade your mentors.
10. Upgrade your experiences.



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**When words become unclear, I shall focus with photographs. When images become inadequate, I shall be content with silence.**

**Ansel Adams**

# ECC Programs

Two more great programming wrapped up the 2018–2019 ECC season. Thank you to Dave Hanson and his committee.

## The Challenges (and Rewards) of Travel Photography



Rob Stimpson was the first of the spring 2019 speakers. He accompanied his amazing photos from Antarctica and other travel destinations (including Ontario) with an informative and entertaining narration, a thoroughly refreshing approach to the subject. And he had one major take-home message for us: Be patient. To see Rob's splendid photos and find out about his Algonquin Moose Photo Adventure and other workshops, visit [www.robstimpson.com/](http://www.robstimpson.com/).

## Underwater Photography



Stuart Seldon surfaced the end of April to give a superb talk and slideshows on underwater photography. Successful underwater photos are a result of luck and perseverance. And Stu currently does about 160 to 180 dives annually to achieve them. The major challenges he faces are little light, necessitating strobes and a wide-angle lens; little colour; cold; everything including himself always moving; limited time to stay at depth; one lens limit, so either wide-angle or macro. As well, one has to be a competent diver to deal with diving problems and be able to be a good underwater photographer and survive. He wrapped up the evening with a discourse on the health of the oceans. To see Syu's images, visit [www.wetspotimages.com](http://www.wetspotimages.com). Photo of Stu on Ice by Alissa Lumsden.

# ECC Outings

Despite the frequency of inclement weather this season, the ECC outings team put together an interesting program of photo walks or hikes. The outings, although informal, were well planned and accompanied by enthusiastic leaders acquainted with the particular destination.

The many benefits gleaned by participating in these group outings are:

- Safety when exploring isolated areas
- Profiting from the help of more experienced photographers who share their technical knowledge of lenses and settings
- Receiving advice or encouragement from fellow participants regarding your photos
- Meeting people with a similar interest, perhaps even developing a new friendship
- Enjoying a new adventure

Many ECC members who participated in outings shared some of their images, some writing a few lines about the experience.

## High Park, March 20

Many kinds of birds had already returned to High Park from their winter habitat. Our “Swan Whisperer” did a great job of guiding us, pointing out where the best birds could be found.

Paul Cordingley



Not the hand of man, but  
the hand of Theresa,  
taken by Paul.

Some of us trying to  
reach our destination.  
H. Friedrich



Grasses, High Park.  
Theresa Bryson

Frisky  
chippies.  
June West



## Kensington Market, March 17

Ten members walked around Kensington Market with intention. Our challenge was to shoot a max of 24 jpg images and deliver them at the end. The best five from each person became part of a slideshow to be shown in-club. This was the start of a straight-out-of-camera series in Kensington this year.

Frank Job



A wonderful experience to get out after such a long cold winter. Our challenge was to walk about Kensington Market and shoot a maximum of 24 images — just like the film days. My thought process became more contemplative, and I was not as fast on the trigger. I remember André Gallant telling us we need to spend some time just looking, taking it in, and slowing down. This was one of those mornings. I loved it! Hope we have more outings like this.

Judy Preston



## Humber Bay East Park, April 3

Our group met at the park at 10 am. After the first whiteout of sleet/snow, bright sunlight broke through clouds over small waves against rocks and driftwood, swans, Canada geese, mallard, goldeneye, grebes, a kingfisher, and a mink. When the second occurred, we carpooled for lunch at the Firkin on the Bay.

Brian Quan



# ECC Competition Results

## People Gold Winners

Check out <https://etobicokecameraclub.smugmug.com/Competitions/2018-2019/People-March-2019> for all winners and entries.



*“Blue-eyed Girl  
Cuddling Puppy”  
Intermediate (GoM)  
Donna Wilson*



*"Dancer" Advanced Frank Job*



*"Surprise" Advanced Frank Job*



*"Red" Superset  
Theresa Bryson*



*“Costa Rica Surfer” Intermediate Hughes De Milleville*



*“Costa Rica Young Surfer” Intermediate Hughes De Milleville*

## PC#2 Monochrome Gold Winners

Check out <https://etobicokecameraclub.smugmug.com/Competitions/2018-2019/PC-2-Mono-March-2019> for all winners and entries.



*“Frank Film Noir” Intermediate (GoM) Hughes De Milleville*



*“The Hunt Begins” Advanced Barbara Marszalek*



*“Burmese Farmer”  
Superset  
Georges Benay*



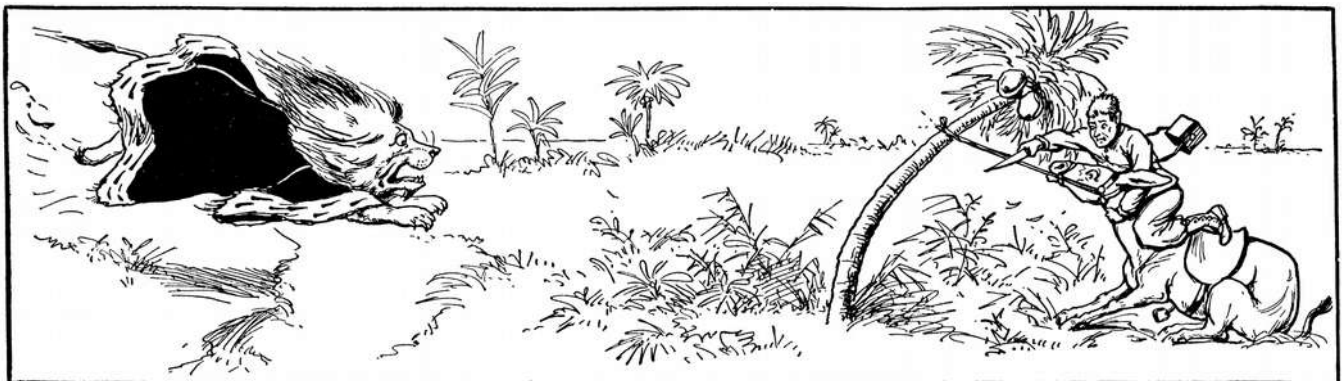
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**I never have taken  
a picture I've  
intended. They're  
always better or  
worse.**

**Diane Arbus**



*Lion wearing robe chasing a photographer (Boys and Girls Bookshelf, The University Society, 1920)*