

VIEWFINDER



VOL 61. NO.4
FEBRUARY 2022

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Photo credit: John Fraser

***"The best camera is the
one in your hand"***

Pete McBibe

***National Geographic
Photographer***

Meet the Editor – John Fraser

Viewfinder is the Etobicoke Camera Club newsletter. Its goal is to share our members' success's and the events at the club that help us on that journey. If you have anything you would like to contribute, please consider submitting it. Our members will appreciate it.



The Etobicoke Camera Club introduced me to the Art in photography. No longer satisfied with just memory photographs, the club helps me strive for photographs that others will also enjoy.

Contact: info@etobicokecameraclub.org

Image Making – My Motivation

by John Fraser

I am writing this article to you as a regular club member. I am not a judge and I have not taken any training. I am as aware as the rest of you about how judges score images, but no more. Also, I don't want anyone to misinterpret this article being a knock on inconsistent judging. Its not. Its about celebrating those occasional recognitions.

I've been a member of ECC since 2014. That's long enough for my view of competition scoring to evolve, even though I am not truly a long time member. Its important to reach a perspective on competitions and judging that allows us to improve and also enjoy photography. And I mean all aspects of it – from capturing the images, to reviewing them and to processing. It's a hobby, I want to have fun. I began with a laser focus on selecting and processing my images into what the judges would score well. And why not? Ribbons are a tantalizing goal. But there can be a disconnect between the score and how I feel about my image. What I've started to notice is that when they are good enough to make me happy, at least one judge agrees with me. That one confirmation is what I am now really looking for.

Have you ever entered a WINNER, only to see it score seven, seven and nine? It's frustrating to see that infrequent picture you think is a real gem not get a ribbon. But think of it this way: If you were an artist selling your work and one out of every three people thought your image was a nine, is that success? Yes! It only takes that one person to buy or publish it.

Make no mistake, the work and knowledge behind the scoring system, the judges' training and volunteer time and our learning from it is what makes that one good score possible. I take judging seriously and I do focus on the scores without a doubt. The criteria of technical, composition and impact used by judges makes senses and leads to better photos. The creators of the scoring system are to be thanked, as are the judges who take the time to apply it and their knowledge and experience and application of it is to be applauded. The point I want to make today is that the individual scores matter almost as much as the final score to me.

If I put aside a conscious effort to satisfy the judges and just have fun (and hope I have subconsciously hardwired some rules), I can be more creative and find my own expression. This is what many of our speakers talk about - finding your vision and sticking to it. I am slowly getting to my happy place, where I just have fun creating and processing the image. Its only when I look at the finished product do I consciously assess it from the judges perspective. Is the focal point at the one third, where is the horizon line, is there a mood, is there a story? I might change the image a bit based on this or maybe I won't. The point is to remember that the joy when viewing the image may come from the memories associated with the event, the pride in creating what you envisioned or the

Feature Article

Image Making – My Motivation (continued)

feedback it received. I have images from each of these categories hanging in my home. Some are there because they did well and I am proud of them, but most are there because they simply make me happy, regardless of how well they did.

Here are some of my photos, with the breakdown of their scores. Each had at least one great reaction from a judge although none of them won any medals.



This one scored 7, 9, 7 and 7 in the Repetition Theme Competition.

This one scored 8, 7 and 7.5 in an Image of the Year Competition; 6.5, 8 and 9.5 in the Lines Theme Competition; 7, 9, 7 and 6 in an O3C Competition.



Image Making – My Motivation (continued)



This one scored 20.3 in an Image of the Year Competition (average of less than 7 from each judge); scored 22 in a Photographer's Choice 1 Competition (average of just over 7, but I recall one judge scoring it **at or over 9**).

Landscape

Competition Results and Highlights

All competition images may be viewed on our [Website Photo Gallery](#) or www.etobicokecameraclub.smugmug.com



GOLD & GOM Superset Gina Jiang Sand Castle in Rocky Mountain



GOLD

Superset

Gina Jiang

Abraham Lake w
Methane Bubbles



GOLD Advanced Janusz Szufnara Kearney



GOLD Intermediate Greg Waters Great Herdsman of Etive

RESULTS of LANDSCAPE COMPETITION held FEBRUARY 2022

Level	Full Name	Title	Score	Ribbon
INTERMEDIATE				
I	GREG WATERS	Great Herdsman of Etive	27.5	GOLD
I	LEANNE HAY	Canada-Lake Minnewanka Sunset Blues	25.5	SILVER
I	LEANNE HAY	Canada-Memorable Mountain Morning	25	HM
I	LEANNE HAY	Canada-Jack Lake on Ice	25	HM
I	COLETTE GRIFFIN	most southerly point in mainland Europe	24	HM
I	LESLIE BUSH	Falkland Islands Landscape	24	HM
I	LESLIE BUSH	Icelandic Ice Field Landscape	24	HM
I	MARION WOODMAN	The Three Sisters at Sunrise	24	HM
ADVANCED				
A	JANUSZ SZUFNARA	Kearney	26.5	GOLD
A	KAREN YOUNG	Starry Night	25	SILVER
A	CELIA FERNANDES	Algonquin Fall View from Booth's Rock	23.5	HM
A	KAREN YOUNG	Dawn on Mizzy Lake Trail	23	HM
A	JANUSZ SZUFNARA	Magic morning	23	HM
A	ROMAN GDYCZYNSKI	Sunset over the Pacific Ocean	22.5	HM
A	ELAINE SINGER	Desert Sky	22.5	HM
SUPERSET				
S	GINA JIANG	Sand Castle in Rocky Mountain	28	GOLD&GOM
S	GINA JIANG	Abraham Lake with Methane Bubbles	28	GOLD
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Exquisite Dunes	27.5	SILVER
S	ALEX KONYUKHOV	Ragged Falls, Muskoka	26.5	HM
S	JUDY GRIFFIN	Sunup at Alabama Hills	26	HM
S	LARRY MCCARTHY	Volcanic Crater	25.5	HM
S	MICHEL GAGNON	Moraine Lake	25	HM
S	JOHN FRASER	Highlands 1	25	HM
S	IRENE BARTON	Sahara Sunrise	25	HM

Level	Submitted	Accepted
Intermediate	37	36
Advanced	33	32
Superset	66	62
Total	136	130

Judges	Affiliation
Moira Fenner	Oshawa Camera Club
Tony Florio	Barrie Camera Club
Robert Zakrison	Toronto Digital Photography Club

AV Show

Competition Results and Highlights



RED TAILED HAWKS OF HIGH PARK ALBERT KURTZ 292 points GOLD

INTRUSION

A Photographic Series
of Altered Landscapes

INTRUSION JOHN FRASER 240 points SILVER

Toronto Nights & Lights

TORONTO NIGHTS & LIGHTS
ANETA ZIMNICKI 239.5 points HM



BEAUTY IN BLOOM

BEAUTY IN BLOOM
JUDY GRIFFIN
237.5 points

A LILIES SYMPHONY EVA MICHALAK
237 points



Speakers

Andrew McLachlan Presented

“Ontario and Beyond, Wild Places and Wild Faces“

on Monday, February 14, 2022



Andrew’s presentation took an in-depth look at the landscape and wildlife found within Ontario and throughout the world. High-quality and dramatic imagery throughout the presentation inspired and educated the audience on various tips and techniques that Andrew uses in the field, on a daily basis, to create inspiring photographs.

Andrew is a freelance photographer / writer from Ontario, Canada. For as long as he can recall, he has been fascinated by the natural world. His photography became an extension of that love. If he did not own a camera, he would still be found hiking along dense boreal forest trails, canoeing through wetlands, and observing all that nature has to offer. Extensive travels throughout Ontario have resulted in a large, diverse collection of images that feature landscapes and the flora and fauna of the province. In addition to photographing Ontario’s natural world Andrew also has growing collections of Caribbean-related photos.

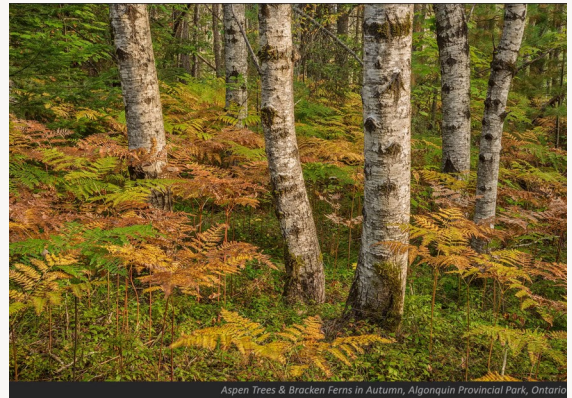
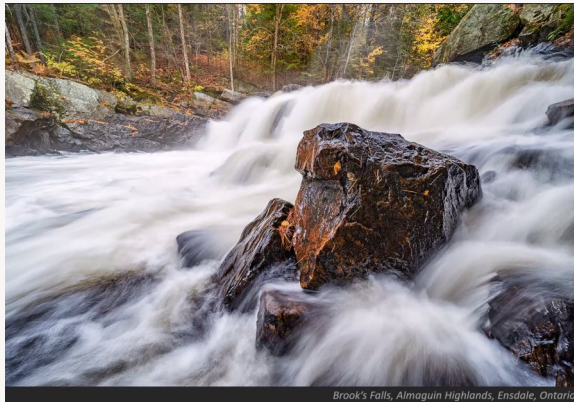
1. Thinking “I got the shot” – not working the situation
2. Not paying attention to visual clutter
3. Not allowing time to practice / improve techniques
4. Going into the field with too much gear
5. Technical perfection before creative expression
6. Arriving too late for sunrise / leaving too early at sunset
7. Overzealous use of adjustment sliders
8. Not getting out to photograph often enough

Build “muscle memory”

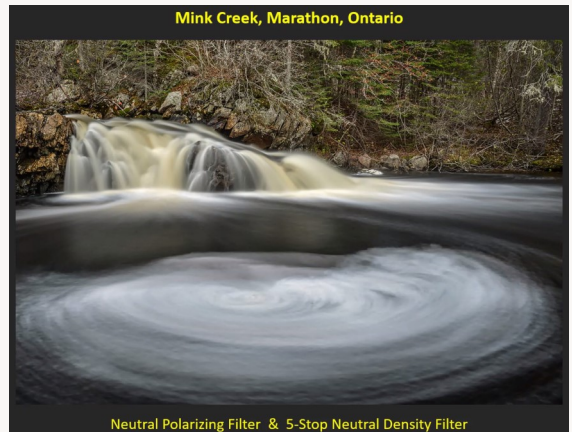
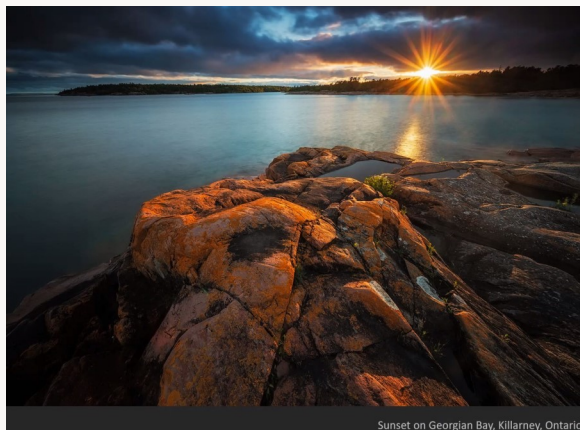
“Seeing” photos often comes more natural after repeated immersions in nature

Refining your photographic eye will be more beneficial to you than studying the instruction manual

A Photograph's
Strength is
Determined by the
Camera's Placement



Filters for
Landscape
&
Wildlife
Photography



Speakers

Inclement Weather
For
Atmospheric
Imagery

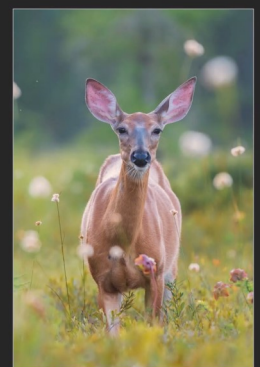


Going to Extremes?

Look For Strong Foreground Elements

Horizontal
or
Vertical

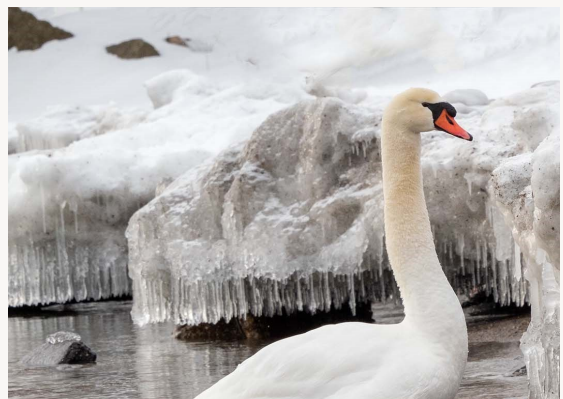
White-tailed Deer, Parry Sound, Ontario



Outings

Sunday January 23rd

Five ECC members ventured out to Colonel Samuel Smith Park. It turned out to be a lovely sunny morning for some great photo opportunities.





Past Issues of the Viewfinder can be found at

<https://www.etobicokecameraclub.org/viewfinder/>

Next Issue:

... Coming late March or early April!