

Competition #2 Results Night - Historical Architecture

I can't believe that we have already completed our second contest. I don't know about you, but it feels that time is slipping away. Well, our second results night is now behind us.

Hope you had fun with this theme and learned a few more tricks and tips to add to your arsenal. Mastering the basic artistic skills still form a solid base for most photographic endeavors. These artistic skills grow with every photograph you take. If we could only take one thing in our bag to help motivate us every time we pick up the camera, it should be this; "As photographers, we have a unique view of the world. We capture moments in time that some never notice. We get to share these moments with others, and we preserve them for generations to see. The easy part is choosing the moments".

Our judges thought our photographers chose well. They enjoyed the variety and skill evident in the 26 beautiful images submitted in Contest #2, "Historical Architecture". The judges had to break a three-way tie for first place, which took some time to accomplish. In the end, third place went to **Perry Hughes** for his capture of the unique architecture of "Quebec City" with a score of 26. Second place went to **Ruth Ann Rule** for her impactful image aptly entitled "Magnificent", with a score of 26. And first place went to **Deb Hall**, for her capture of "Hagia Sophia" with a score of 26. My congratulations go to the photographers. I also want to thank Linda Feick and Jerry Cornell, who performed the duties of observers, and as always a big thank you to Bill for preparing the slide show for results night and keeping up with the myriad of comments from the judges.

Warm regard, Deb Hall - Contest Chair



© Ruth Ann Rule



© Perry Hughes



© Deb Hall

1st PLACE Deb Hall

Hagia Sophia

Hagia Sofia, is a former Orthodox patriarchal basilica, later a mosque and now a museum in Istanbul Turkey. It was dedicated in 360AD and opened as a museum in 1935. I captured this image, not from the front which is commonly seen, but from the back which showed the various additions and which was kissed by the wonderful afternoon light. My camera was set to ISO 200, 1/200 of a sec, f11, and my lens choice was a short zoom of 38mm.

Deb



2nd PLACE Ruth Ann Rule

Magnificent

The Arcade Mall in downtown Cleveland, Ohio, was erected in 1890. This was the first indoor shopping mall in the USA. It is a Victorian-era structure with a glass skylight spanning over 300 feet, along the four balconies. The natural lighting was excellent. Settings: ISO 200, Shutter Speed 1/180 of a sec.

Travelling on a bus tour I only had my Fuji Point & Shoot camera.

Ruth Ann

3rd PLACE Perry Hughes

Quebec City

This image was taken while we were attending the Winter Carnival in QC. It is a lovely event for wandering and taking pictures of an old walled city. This was also my first opportunity to put my Panasonic GH2 through its paces. The camera was set to ISO 160, f 10, 1/400. I bracketed 3 shots hand held and then processed the shots using HDR software which allowed me to keep the sky.

Perry

Woodstock Camera Club



DON'T FORGET!

**Photo Art Contest
Deadline
February 29th, 2012,**



**Competition #3
"Animal Portraits"
April 11, 2012.**

Going away?

*You can submit your print
and digital copy at
any meeting.*

Grand Valley Image Battle

*Congratulations to Lindsey Mercer
– 2nd Place Winner –*

On Saturday, Nov. 5th, 2011 members of the Woodstock Camera Club attended the Grand Valley Image Battle that was hosted by the Halton Hills Camera Club, Norval, Ontario. The WCC entries did very well in the competition, coming in second place, only four points behind GRIPS from Kitchener. WCC member **Lindsey Mercer** had the highest overall winning score of 27 points in the 'Print



© Lindsey Mercer

Category'.

The Woodstock Camera Club is honoured to be hosting the 2012 Grand Valley Image Battle event this fall.

WCC Challenge #2 - Best of Fall

Autumn is the most glorious of seasons with the changing of the leaves and the harvest.

The WCC members welcomed the second challenge by heading out and exploring the incredible spectacle of the changing fall colours. Fall is a wonderful time for photography. From the middle of September to late October the splendour of red maple, yellow poplar and white birch become the backdrop for an outstanding image. Browse the website for lists of fall routes. This is the perfect time to hit the roads, whether in your car or on your motorcycle, or walk a trail and explore.

A few things to remember; consider the weather before you plan a fall photography outing. Autumn weather can be damp and cold, which can cause a few problems with a camera, so

be prepared. A cloudy day can leave the colours lacking brightness & vibrancy, but shooting near sunrise or sunset will make the colours jump out in your image.

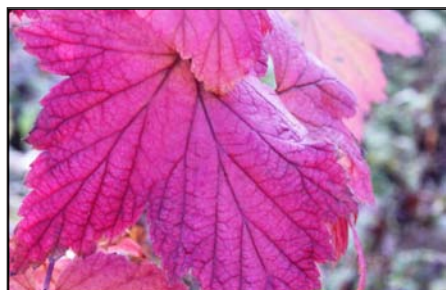
Northern climates will see the colours reach their peak much earlier than the south so plan your trip accordingly.

Oranges, yellows, reds, and browns are the reason to shoot fall photos, but green can add to your image and make a good backdrop. The club members captured some excellent close-up photos of individual leaves,

woodlands, walking trails and bridges. Here are a few samples!



Bruce Lawrence



Rachelle Petrie



Harold Watling



Dina
Klynstra

What's in this issue:

Pg. 1

- Competition Winners

Pg. 2

- Challenge #2
- Grand Valley Image Winner

Pg. 3

- Communications
- President
- Contest Chair
- Photo Art Contest

Pg. 4

- Guest Speakers

Pg. 5

- Santa Comes to Town

Pg. 6

- Challenge #3

Pg. 7

- WCC News
- Items for Sale

**THE ONTARIO
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FOUNDATION**



Woodstock Camera Club



Message from the President Harold Watling



Hi everyone,

With spring just around the corner according to the groundhog we are well past the halfway point for our 2011/2012 camera club year.

Looking back on our first half we remember the new friends we met, and of course the many learning opportunities as a result of various tech sessions, competitions and of course one-on-one discussions we have had with other club members. All of that adds up to us taking better pictures than what we did when we started the year. Taking pictures is really recording history and memories. Some of our pictures will last beyond our lifetime. Future generations will be able to put a face with a name of an ancestor they never met and be able to see some of the things that they were interested in as well as the environment they lived in.

Some of us have pictures now that were taken over a hundred years ago. For the most part the ones that lasted down through the years were interesting, they were of good quality and they were developed using the best available resources of the time. With high quality cameras and equipment we have today and by increasing our knowledge of their use through clubs like ours there will be many more pictures that will be seen 100 years from now.

Although I am a long ways away I am still in touch with our club and have joined the local club here in Arizona. It has 420 members. I am particularly interested in seeing how they do things. So far I see subtle differences & some may be of interest to our club members. I will discuss these with our board when I return. One thing is clear already and that is that our system, our policies and procedures, and our pictures match anything I have seen here in this much larger club. That is a great testimony to our past and present leadership who volunteer their time for all our benefit.

Harold Watling

Message from the Communications Chair



Well, here we are into February, the days are getting longer and before we know it – it will be spring. We can hear it now - 'but not soon enough'!

We had our first Intro session of Adobe Lightroom3 and we are told that those taking part were very pleased with what they had learned during the day.

The **Intermediate session** is coming up on **Saturday February 18th**. Below is a photo of the group hard at work, with James Cowie the workshop presenter, who is doing a great job.



James Cowie and class

As you know we have a new judge chair this year & the Woodstock Camera Club is using CAPA certified or trained judges. They also are using their new image light box for proper lighting of the photographs. I had the privilege of attending the judging of Contest #2 recently and I can say that I was very pleased with what I saw happening - the professionalism I observed - and the quality of comments made by the three judges.

Jerry Cornell

Summer Olympics

The Woodstock Camera Club year-end Gala will be here before you know it and the planning of the event has begun. We have chosen the theme '**Summer Olympics**' since it will be taking place this year in London England.

What better way to be part of the 2012 Olympics than by looking back in your photo archives and submitting photos of summer sports or anything here at home that relates to London England for the Gala Exhibit - May 30th, 2012. Watch for more information to come.



Vice President
Perry Hughes



Treasurer
Pat Foord



Secretary
Kim Eller



Linda Feick
Program Chair

Our Program has been very busy lately starting with our Annual Christmas Pot Luck. Members had an amazing time trying to figure out the answers to the picture riddles and questionnaire. We all learned a thing or two and many of us discovered a lot that we didn't know. Once again we had a delicious meal and all had a good time.

We have had great club meetings, learning about black and white photography with our own John Novak and about Macro photography with our latest guest speaker Mark Helm. This year we are opening our photographic horizons with the WCC Challenges. So far there have been some interesting photo's taken as we step out of our comfort zone and try new things.

We also hosted James Cowie who, through a one-day course, instructed members in the basics of Lightroom3. There are many more courses that members would enjoy taking part in so stay tuned to find out more about them.

We have lots more interesting things coming up in the near future such as more challenges, our Animal Portraits Competition, our first ever Valentine's Party and guest speakers James Cowie, Jason Gennings and Juraj Dolanjski just to name a few. You won't want to miss our member's Travel Showcase either.

I would like to thank Bob Bembridge for keeping our website up to date with our club news. A job well done Bob.

Well, I guess that's it for this time. Keep your camera close and get out there and take those next exciting shots. We look forward to seeing what you are creating.

Linda Feick

Dave Chidley - Photographic Night



The Woodstock Camera Club was pleased to have **Dave Childley** back to share his extensive photographic knowledge along with his humour on photographing people.

Get Low & Move Slow

On January 18th **Mark Helm** shared his techniques on Macro Photography and how to stack your images. His passion is to discover the world around him, even if it is a few feet from his back door.

Focus stacking can be used to increase the available depth of field in a shot. You need a subject which is not moving while taking the photos. Mark takes his pictures in the early morning when the insects are still, due to the cold. During the morning

dew and after a rain fall are excellent times to capture macro shots too.

Mark has a website and a blog where you can view much more of Mark's work and see some interesting links for tutorials and related books and equipment. Take a look, it is well worth the time to visit Mark's website www.mhelm.com and his blog at www.mhelm.com/blog

CLICK & SAVE PHOTO OPPS

Here are some great opportunities to take photos and enjoy history. Fanshawe Pioneer Village has some great events coming up.

CELEBRATING SPRING May 19: Village Opening

May 21: Queen Victoria's Birthday

JUNE JUBILEE

June 2-3: Spring on the Farm

June 16-17: Community Appreciation 1959 Admission Price!

SUMMER IN THE VILLAGE

July 8: Victorian Teddy Bear Picnic

August 18-19: Fanshawe Agricultural Fair

FALL FOR THE VILLAGE IN FALL

September 29-30: Culture Days - Free Admission

October 6-7: Thanksgiving at the Village

October 8: Last Day Village is open to the public.

Other events are offer. Look to fanshawepioneerivillage.ca

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Santa Claus visited Woodstock

Santa took a break from his busy schedule to visit the children in Woodstock and the surrounding areas.

He invited all the children to visit him throughout the month of December at the Santa House in the Museum Square.

The Woodstock Camera Club volunteers captured many precious moments of the children's expressions as they sat on Santa's knee and whispered their wishes in his ear. The tears were photographed too.

Parents & grandparents purchased their Christmas photos for gifts while others purchased them to record their visits with Santa from year to year.

Thank you to the Woodstock Camera Club members that volunteered their time to bring the Christmas Spirit to everyone and to Santa for taking time to come to Woodstock and record all the wishes.

See you next year Santa.

Photographs

by Woodstock Camera Club



Callum Bruce, 5 years old, visited Santa at his house at the Museum Square in Woodstock.



Emersyn, James, Bryer, and their Mother Wendy Fleming with Santa.

The Photo event was sponsored by the BIA and the Woodstock Camera Club.



Santa Claus Parade

The Woodstock Santa Evening Parade brought the adults and children out to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas Spirit. WCC volunteers lined the parade route to shoot photos of the event.

Mark your calendars for next year and take part in capturing great Christmas photos. Contact Linda Feick.



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OPTIONS

WCC Challenge #3 - *What's In The Bag?*

A button? A pencil? A mint? How do you photograph an item for an advertisement?



Jerry Cornell



Lindsey Mercer



Rachelle Pitre



Colin Hutchinson



Yvonne Boniface

*Taking advertising photography is an art.
You have to use your imagination to take a simple item and turn it into something wonderful to get the public's attention.*

The third challenge for the Woodstock Camera Club members was a challenging one. Each member was invited to pick a brown paper bag with a small item inside. Members were asked to use their imagination and photograph the item.

There is far more to advertising photography than just taking pictures, you need an artistic viewpoint and you need to pay close attention to details. When and where you place an item can be so important to getting a great image.

Once again the members took the challenge and submitted some excellent photos.

Congratulations!



Dave Feick



Linda Feick



Henriette Webb



Fred Conboy



Ralph Boniface



Denise Rooke



Karyn Guthrie

Dina Klynstra



Bill Hall

NOTICE

*** SPECIALS & DISCOUNTS ON ADS
ARE FOR WCC MEMBERS ONLY.**

**Club Members must
present their
WCC membership card to qualify.**

** Discounts can not be used with
any other discounts or specials.*

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*This is an example how to be creative when
photographing an item and adding a few words to
make an advertisement.*

Black and White Photography is back!

Black & white photography is one of the oldest forms of taking pictures.



January 4th - John Novak

In the last few years black & white has made a remarkable comeback.

John Novak a WCC member and owner of John Novak Photography & Printing in Brantford spoke to the WCC members on how to create outstanding black & white photographs from a digital camera and how to get the feel of black and white to print those amazing images.

He explained how shooting in raw form works best, but a jpg will work also. Some cameras do not allow you to shoot in RAW, but if your camera does allow it give it a go. You might be surprised by what you can do. Shooting in jpg doesn't stop you making black and white images. You can shoot in colour and do your conversion to black and white later on your computer.

While most digital cameras offer you the option to shoot in B&W, you will have more control over your end results if you have the colour data to work with in your conversion on your computer. In addition your image may work as both a black and white and colour so don't commit to in-camera black & white especially if you are shooting in jpg.

There are a number of programs that you can use to convert colour to black & white. Adobe Lightroom, Adobe Photoshop and Photoshop Elements along with Apple's iPhoto & Aperture are some examples.

John explained that taking your pictures in black and white mode, using "convert to grey scale" is not recommended. A pdf copy of his presentation with recommended approaches along with reference articles and videos were provided for the clubs

website: www.woodstockcameraclub.com.

Also visit John's website to view his photo gallery and his marvelous bird carvings.
www.johnnovak-photography.com



**Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Woodstock & District**

and the Woodstock Camera Club
join together once again.



*Dianne Hatfield, Ruth Ann Rule,
Daniel Di Marco and Jerry Cornell*

Dianne Hatfield, Executive Director and Daniel Di Marco, Group Program Coordinator from the Big Brothers Big Sisters in Woodstock have cordially invited the WCC to join them once again this year to offer the Little brothers & sister an educational and fun experience that they mightn't have been privy to before.

Ruth Ann Rule and Jerry Cornell will be getting together a team to teach the kids the basics of photography.

Food Art

Challenge #5 will bring out the imagination of the photographers and also help them learn the importance of lighting and composition.



A photographer must get the attention of a viewer. For example: photograph a summer cocktail and take the viewer to a hot summer day, or a steak sizzling on a BBQ that will immediately make them hungry. Food has to jump off the page of a magazine to get the readers attention.

Food Art makes great framed images for your home or office too.

Lighting is the most important element of photography. You can buy expensive professional cameras and lots of lenses, but if you do not know how to control the light, then these are useless.

The website is a great place to find great information on how to photograph food. There is a great tutorial on how to take food photos and control your lighting. Check this one out! You will never know you can be successful unless you try.

Website: - **Taylor Takes a Taste.**

Food Photography Tips, Tricks and Tutorials

**Deadline for your digital
Food Art image is March 7th.**

ITEMS FOR SALE

TRIPOD

**1 LIGHTWEIGHT ALUMINUM
MANFROTTO**

Model #055 C Tripod is ready to accept a ball head or other camera mounting device.

Contact **Jerry Cornell, WCC Member**

CANON 430EX SPEEDLITE FLASH

This is essentially new with very little use and is in mint condition. It comes with a case, batteries and an aftermarket diffuser to soften & flash. I have switched to Panasonic equipment and have no further use for this flash. \$200.

Contact **Perry Hughes, WCC Member**

- **PHOTOSHOP CS4** for Mac \$200
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Contact **John Novak,
WCC Member**



Challenge #6 -

Signs of Spring

Digital Deadline: April 4th

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300 print maximum. Paid for the same day.

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