

Animal Portraits

Contest #3

Before we get into the results for this last contest of the 2011-2012 club year, we would like to congratulate all of the participants on a job well done. It was obvious from the collection of images that we all really like our animal world.

Viewing the submissions at our results night, we see that you took your time in order to catch the animal's unique personality, and looked for the perfect light which would enhance your subject. Some were not afraid to get up close and personal with the wild side and some enjoyed the companionship of a valued friend. I know that by participating in the clubs contests you help all of our members improve their craft. Well done all!

A thank you also goes out to the membership at large for your enthusiastic appreciation of our fellow photographers. We hope that you have picked up some of the tips and techniques provided by our members, guests and judges, to help you grow your art. Contests are a great way to hone your craft.

Deb Hall, Contest Chair

Tip: Focusing on the eyes is the key to capturing a photo of an animal. Capturing the eyes will determine emotion. By keeping your distance, you allow the animal to be in their comfort zone and they are more likely to get relaxed and be natural. When photographing animals in the zoo behind a fence, you will find a telephoto lens comes in very handy. Set your camera on a tripod and wait for that great image at the right time.



© Colin Hutchinson

1st PLACE Colin Hutchinson

Simon is our son's cat that we inherited when he went to school. Like most cats he runs the house. After chasing him around the back yard one afternoon, trying to put him in interesting locations with a good background, he followed us into the screened-in porch. I grabbed a wicker basket, set him in it on the table with the sun coming in behind him and snapped a few shots before he could escape. His look says "I thought we were done already!"

Shot with a Nikon D90 with a 70-300 lens and a flash for fill light.

Colin



CONTEST #3

2nd PLACE - Deb Hall

Red Head

The Red Head was captured when visiting Upper Canada Village late last fall. When I first saw him, this fine fellow was shooing all of the ladies into the coop. When he finally settled down I was able to start shooting. I took 15 images by varying my exposure, aperture, and focal length. This one was taken at ISO 200, 1/800 of a sec, f6.3 and a focal length of 155mm. In Lightroom, I cropped the image and made a minor adjustment to the saturation. It was then printed using lightroom.

Deb



© Deb Hall



3rd PLACE - Randy Young

His name is King", said our tour guide. It was a hot day at the Twin Valley Zoo near Brantford. All of the animals were relaxing in the heat of the afternoon. I set up my tripod and switched my camera to the longest lens I have. Then through the viewfinder, I saw he was staring down the barrel of my 300 mm lens. His age and experience allowed me the time to get my exposure right. It was just another hot day of tourists filing by in this small private zoo. Then as we were the last to leave, off in the distance, I heard the plaintiff calls of this large cat waiting for his dinner. I was transferred for just a second, to the African plain that he had never known. Rest in peace my friend.

Randy



©Randy Young



Woodstock Camera Club



Club Newsletter

TELL A STORY WITH FEET



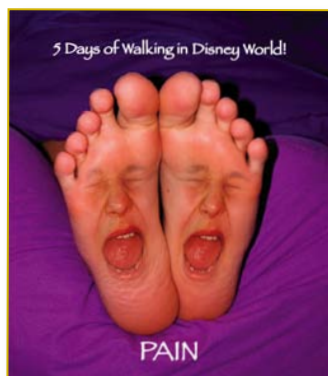
Colin Hutchinson

FOOTPRINTS

*Today, upon my garden walk,
Where fresh cement was laid,
You pressed your little heels & toes
and barefoot prints were made.
Beside this funny pair of feet,
With small and sturdy hand,
You wrote your own initials as
You write them in the sand.
Though you'll be growing up,
my dear,
And leaving me someday,
These little footprints on the walk
Will never run away.
I'll keep them here forever, in
This special place, apart,
Just like the little footprints you
Have left upon my heart.
- by Kathy Dix*



Cathy Geltink



Ruth Ann Rule

WCC Challenge #4

Have you ever wondered why a photographer finds enjoyment in taking images of feet?

You will be surprised at the number of photographers that do just that.

It's one of the last subjects that one would even think about - normally it is a portrait of one's face. Most of us take our feet for granted unless they are in pain, but if you study feet you will see a story every time.

At birth little feet are inked and recorded as a memorandum. Memories should not stop there - memories should continue through a child's lifetime. Take images of their first step, dances, sports, friendships, graduation and even as they walk down the aisle at their wedding. There is no end to telling stories with feet and the poem tells it all.

Club members captured memories!

For example:

Cathy Geltink captured fun and happiness at a sister's getaway.

Colin Hutchinson captured a walk on a summer day - showing love.

Bronwyn Moody documents her vacations by shooting her feet in an image, just to prove she has been there. **'Feet First' by Tom Robinson Photography** has great



Dianne Ward



Johnn Novak



Bonnie Hewitt

websites on taking images of his feet while traveling to different places. Check them out!

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WCC Members are Invited to the

Woodstock Camera Club

Gala

Celebrating the Summer Olympics

Wednesday, May 30th ~ 7:00 - 10:00 p.m.

Quality Hotel & Suites (Lower Level)

Members are welcome to bring a guest.

AWARDS NIGHT

MEMBERSHIP DRAW • DOOR PRIZES

• CAKE • CASH BAR

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Message from the President Harold Watling



We are coming to the end of another WCC year. As in the past it has been a very successful year with fun packed outings, entertaining and educational speakers, lots of opportunity to learn about your camera and photography tips to improve the end result. Our club membership has grown to 72 members.

Although we are close to the end of the year it is far from over in terms of content yet to come. We still have our executive election night and of course the year end Gala on May 30. Two of our worker bees (Ruth Ann & Yvonne) have put together another not to be missed Gala. Also, later this summer, the Woodstock Camera Club will be hosting other clubs for the annual Grand Valley event. Our members have participated as guests in the past & now it is our turn to reciprocate. Our club has placed very near the top in past years which is especially good because some clubs are much bigger than ours. Maybe this will be our year to be number one, so let's go out this summer and get lots of great entries.

I have enjoyed being your club President this year. I learned a great deal about our club and what it takes to run a successful club like ours. Whether it be club meetings, outings, programs, newsletter input, training courses, volunteering for community photographic events or generally ensuring that all aspects of running a club are being kept up, it takes a commitment from many folks so as not to overload a dedicated few. The club is fortunate to have an abundance of talent and volunteers.

Behind the scenes your executive for 2011-2012 has been very busy reviewing, organizing and rewriting many club rules & procedures. Much of this work existed in the past so it was a matter of updating and writing new rules as needed. The nature of these things is such that annual reviews should always be done to ensure current thinking prevails and is broadly known by its members. We have put all these policies, procedures and critical club documents in one binder together with executive meeting minutes and

other important club documents. Having these all current and in one place will make it easy for all future club executives to get up to speed early on.

I will not be standing for re-election this year however I will be on the executive for another year as past President and will certainly continue to be a club member.

I thank everyone for all the hard work and passion they brought to the club this past year.

Best Regards - Harold Watling



Linda Feick
Program Chair

We have been very busy lately, what with challenges, contests, club presentations and guest speakers.

Our first ever Valentine's Party was a great success. Seeing what members created for their Valentine cards was interesting and fun. Thanks to Deb Hall for her work in pulling this event together.

Our member showcases transported us all over the world without leaving our seats. What an awesome evening! Antony Chodus was here from Forest City Imaging in London. He brought with him some of the latest technology from cameras to gadgets with his particular brand of humor. I'm sure the shoppers were out the next day. Next we had our Photo Art Contest. Our pictures were judged, but we will have to wait till the Gala to see who the winners are. Juraj Dolanjski was here to inspire us to get out and use our imaginations and our visual surroundings to motivate us as spring approaches. What wonderful insight this man has to get everyone out there and taking pictures. We were treated to absolutely amazing Animal Portraits for Contest #3.

Up and coming events at the club include Portraits with Jason Gennings, Framing and Selling Your Prints with Mary Anne Murphy and of course our Year-End Gala. The Gala is the culmination of everyone's photographic work throughout the year & a chance to socialize with our members.

Ruth Ann Rule and Yvonne Boniface are hard at work getting door prizes and gifts to make the evening successful and an evening full of fun.

Thank you to all the members who have volunteered through the year - helping the



Vice President
Perry Hughes



Treasurer
Pat Foord



Secretary
Kim Eller

Woodstock Camera Club to give back to their community.

That's it for now folks. With the spring fast approaching, let's get out there and see what amazing pictures we can come up with. You never know when you might just get that million dollar shot!

Happy clicking.

Linda

Message from the Communications Chair



From a communications perspective it looks like we have had a fairly uneventful year so far with regard to getting the information out to our membership. We have tried to send reminders about upcoming meetings and also a little bit about what we can expect to see and hear at the meetings. We even had the odd whoooooops crop up with some of our communications, but in most cases we got stuff corrected in time so as not to do a lot of damage. I have asked before and I'll ask again - if there are any of our members who have ideas or thoughts as to how we can improve our communications, it's as simple as dropping us a line and tell us what you think.

Jerry Cornell

Celebrating the Summer Olympics LONDON ENGLAND & SPORTS EXHIBIT

The Deadline for your Gala images is **May 23rd** and all the details can be found within the e-mail and poster that was sent out to all the WCC members. The WCC members excel with their photographs and what a wonderful time to show our guest our images.

FOOD ART

WCC Challenge #5

Why do people invest time taking food photos? This could be a good career route - advertising, recipe books, labels for packaging, posters and magazines. Photographing food is a difficult skill to master. If your lighting is off, your food will not look appetizing - potentially ruining the image. Stabilize the camera by using a tripod - it helps reduce the photo's blurriness. You can also use a timer on the camera to be sure.

The food art must look as realistic as possible. Advertising photos should be artistic & creative to bring attention to the product. When taking pictures of food for a magazine or recipe book the food should look delicious so people can almost smell and taste it. You cannot capture either sensation using the camera, so photographers have to rely on other features, such as texture, color & presentation.

Because food photographers work with relatively small subjects, they find



Denise Rooke

it better to use smaller lighting equipment such as a light box. Pictures of food look best when taken at close range. F-stops of four to five with an ISO of 200 will keep the food in focus and the background out of focus - drawing attention to the food. Lighting is important but there is one more thing that can help your food art and that is garnishing. Be creative and have fun!



David Feick



Colin Hutchinson



Yvonne Boniface



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Woodstock Little Brothers Little Sisters enjoyed digital photography



Dianne Hatfield, Executive Director and **Daniel Di Marco**, Group Program Coordinator from the Big Brothers Big Sisters in Woodstock, along with **Ruth Ann Rule** and **Jerry Cornell** from the Woodstock Camera Club planned two sessions for the 2012 Soar Program. These sessions offer the Little Brothers and Sisters an educational and exciting experience - what better way to have fun than to learn digital photography.

Jerry recruited camera club members to mentor the children. **Dave Feick, Frank Calic, Harold Watling, Perry Hughes, Linda Feick, Ruth Ann Rule and Bonnie Hewitt** were very willing to pass on their photography skills to the students.

Do you remember as a child your parents telling us 'Don't take too many shots, they cost money.' This was if you were taking photos with film at that time, but now digital photography allows us to click away without spending a cent until you choose that special image to print. Adults sometimes try to teach too much to a child, which can discourage them and lose their playfulness with their photography. Let them discover the world around them by experimenting and having a lot of fun. If they pick up an interest in photography the serious photography will come at a later time.

Fun was exactly what Little Brothers & Sisters experienced at Southside Park and Cathcart Parts, R.R. 1 Burford. They learned how to shoot macro, how to move around subjects to get the composition & correct lighting, and how to use different perspectives, both up high and down low. Small cardboard cut-outs helped the boys and girls find a subject

and frame it before they used their cameras. The cut-out helped them to learn that a cluttered foreground can destroy their image and that just changing their position will make a big difference.



It was obvious that small hands were still having a hard time holding larger cameras, but using a tripod or resting their camera on a solid surface helped to steady their cameras. It would be best to start with a smaller camera.



The Little Brothers visited Cathcart Auto Parts where they discovered great photo opportunities.

The Little Brothers and Little Sisters are invited to view their images in a slide show at the WCC Gala - May 30th. Experiencing first-hand the importance of helping others in your community gives you an emotional fulfillment and a way to give back to your community. If you have a skill and want to pass it on to the children, contact Big Brothers Big Sisters at 519-537-6404.

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Photographic Art

The Camera Club photographers were given the opportunity to digitally modify one of their images to produce a piece of photographic art that could be appreciated primarily for its beauty and emotional power.

First impressions are crucial when creating a piece of art. So, whether a lot of tweaking or minor adjustments were in order, these artists worked on their images until a finished product emerged. Remember, art plays a large part in making our lives infinitely rich. Art gives us a way to be creative and express ourselves.

All the work was wonderful - well done with great ideas - expressions of creativity.

The judging was done on April 11th at the new Woodstock Art Gallery on Dundas Street in Woodstock - by the Art Curator, a professional artist and a photographer.



Perry Hughes, Patricia Deadman, and Cathy Groulx

The judges are well known for their knowledge in photography, the art world and digital adjusting.

They were very impressed with the high quality of the images. Judging was done by elimination with 5 prints being eliminated from the contest at a time. The judging was also done by consensus so that the comments given could be from any or all of the judges and were most often the reasons why an image was to be eliminated. All images were winners in the judges eyes, but 4 images stood out from the others.

The Wilson Johnston Sr. Memorial Trophy will be presented to the first place winner by Wilson Johnston Jr. at the WCC Gala.

SIGNS OF SPRING

WCC Challenge #6

The 'Signs of Spring' project gave the members the challenge to focus on the foreground/background integration. They were to take a picture of a spring subject with a complimentary background.

After a long winter they were to find something that would tell

everyone that spring is on the way.

The photographers wondered if they would be able to find a sign of spring so early in March, but to their surprise spring came early with very hot days, allowing the blossoms to bloom, flowers to pop and birds to arrive home early. Here are a few of the images:



Bronwyn Moody



Fred Conboy



Karen Guthrie



Colleen Rintoul

TIP FOR THE MONTH - One of the easiest ways to improve your photography is with careful attention to framing. Look into the corners of the viewfinder to see what is there. Do you need all that background? Can you get closer to your subject or zoom in? Would the picture look better as an upright or landscape?

The most common mistake people make when taking pictures is not filling the frame with the subject. If it's a photo of granny on the doorstep, let's just see the granny and the door, not half the houses in the street with a small granny in the middle. I think the culprit for this phenomenon is the focusing aid in the center of the viewfinder. Most cameras have some sort of circle or rectangle etched onto the glass and we are inclined to think, in our less thoughtful moments, that this is the whole picture area. Take a moment to glance around the viewfinder to see what you have at the edges and especially in the corners. Watch out for clutter in the background, that lamppost growing out of someone's head. Make sure that everything in the viewfinder is there because you want it to be.

You will find free Photography tips on the website: GeoffLawrence.com - Free Photography Tips

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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