



Woodstock Camera Club

A community of photographers sharing the art of photography

NATURAL THINGS



© Perry Hughes



FIRST PLACE
PERRY HUGHES
"I AM Smiling"

CONTEST # 1

I trust everyone had a great summer. I am sure that a lot of photography happened and that you are geared up for this year's great program.

Well, Our Contest #1 results have just revealed our first ribbon winners of the year. There were 29 first-rate images entered for this first contest "Natural Things" and my congratulations go out to all of the Woodstock Camera Club photographers.

Entering any photo contest can be daunting, as we reveal a little of ourselves in each image we share. Our very experienced judges, have been in this very position. As the contests have gone by, each of them has grown in their craft and each has learned to welcome lessons learned through thoughtful feedback.

On Wednesday October 30th, the result of all of your hard work was revealed and I am confident that the judges feedback will be helpful in your photographic journey.

The scores for 1st to 3rd place ranged from 27 to 25, very close indeed. In fact a tie needed to be broken for the 2nd place winner. With a score of 25 points, Third Place went to Karen Guthrie for her image entitled "Lava Cactus". Also with a score of 25 points, Second Place went to Harold Watling for his image entitled "Loon and Chick". And finally with a score of 27 points, First Place went to Perry Hughes for his image entitled "I AM Smiling". Congratulations all!

Don't forget that Contest 2's theme is "Humour"

I like this quote from Pat Hinckley... "The only way to get through life is to laugh your way through it. You either have to laugh or cry. I prefer to laugh. Crying gives me a headache." It appears that photographers share this opinion. So show us some of the funny moments you caught on camera that will make us laugh. Sizing and submission details can be found in the Woodstock Camera Club Handbook located on the WCC website [woodstockcameraclub.com](http://www.woodstockcameraclub.com). The deadline for both the print and digital images is November 27, 2013.

Happy shooting!

Respectfully,
Deb Hall - Contest Chair

SECOND PLACE

HAROLD WATLING *"Loon and Chick"*



© Harold Watling

THIRD PLACE

KAREN GUTHRIE *"Lava Cactus"*



© Karen Guthrie

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THE ONTARIO
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Finding unique images at McLean's Auto Wreckers



© Colleen Rintoul



© Randy Young



© Melinda Weiler

On October 19th, with threatening skies, a dozen members of the Woodstock Camera Club set off on an adventure to visit the McLean's Auto Wreckers. Some "stunners" was the goal of all. With Colleen as their guide, they set off to explore the old and not so old amongst the cedars and vines. Too much to see in one visit was the comment heard over and over again. The rains held off until noon. Three hours of photographic bliss was had by all.

If you would like to join us on another visit, Colleen may arrange another once there is snow. The McLean brothers enjoy the visit and the enthusiasm brought to their humble business.

Submitted by Randy Young

The WCC Outings are a great way for photo opportunities. If you would like to plan an outing to a special spot that you have discovered, contact WCC Bill Thompson, Program Chair.



© Robina Cullen



Woodstock Camera Club

Bulletin Board

Here it is, October already and our Camera Club is in full swing. We had a successful summer photographing the Relay for Life for the Canadian Cancer Society. We submitted 96 team photos and 1015 candid photos this year which was a record for us!

I would like to personally thank my dedicated team for volunteering again and making this another great venue for our Club. Just as a side note, we have printed pictures and given them to the Police Department showing our Chief Freeman and other officers in the dunk tank. Everyone else in the department loved that we took pictures as they were unable to attend but were still able to see the action!



Front Row: Sheri-Lyn Bowker-Allan, Linda Feick, Kim Eller, Jerry Cornell, Pat Foord.

Middle Row: Ruth Ann Rule, Bonnie Hewitt, Randy Young, Colleen Rintoul.

Back Row: Frank Calic, Dave Feick, Bob Bembridge, Bill Hall.

Photo by Deb Hall

Santa is coming to town!

In November and December we will be busy with the Santa House which is our annual Club Fund-raiser. We will be sending out the sign-up sheets shortly asking for volunteers for this event. The Camera Club members also will be taking photos at the Santa Claus Parade.

Remember, Santa's visit is right around the corner so make sure you are really good by signing up to help our cause and get on his "GOOD LIST".

Talk to you soon,
Linda Feick

Mark your calendars

All aboard for Simcoe Christmas
Lights December 7th

A night of winter photography and hot chocolate. There will be a sign up sheet at the club.

December 11th, 2013 -
Christmas Potluck Dinner

The event will be held at the Emmanuel Reformed Church, 170 Clarke St., Woodstock (South door - lower floor) 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Come join us for a social night full of Christmas Spirit. Club members are asked to bring a Potluck dish and your place setting for dinner. Guests Welcome.

Hawk Cliff just east of Port Stanley

Photography and birding have many things in common: planning, hard work, patience, timing, skill... and often just plain luck. With nature, weather can be a factor as the WCC found out on their trip to Hawk Cliff this fall. No raptors!

Don't give up on this amazing opportunity. The Hawk Cliff Foundation and its dedicated volunteer raptor counters are there most days from September 1st to November 30th, 2013 with special education days set for the first two weekends after Labour Day. There is a catch-band-release education program at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. those days, so it is a great photo-op.

Raptors that are netted on area farms are displayed and released from the back of a pickup truck. Monarch Watch also gives a demonstration at the same time.

If you are interested in following Hawk Cliff Hawkwatch on the internet, check out both their webpage and Facebook page. There were close to 68,000 raptors spotted migrating during September this year, so these pages will give lots of details. Once you have images of "captive" birds, we hope that you will be inspired to attempt photographing birds "in the wild". Anytime from January to March can be a special time to visit the Long Point World Biosphere for wildlife photography. On March 9, 2014, Richard and Sharron Skevington will lead an outing to Long Point to search for Tundra swans, Sandhill cranes, Bald eagles and a variety of ducks. This will be a joint Woodstock Camera Club and Woodstock Field Naturalist venture. Hope to see you there.

Submitted by Tony Sheldon



Woodstock Art Gallery presents the *Visual Elements 55* Juried Exhibition

The Woodstock Art Gallery provides a centre that is open to all for enrichment, enjoyment and participation in the arts. It is a centre that inspires, engages and enriches the lives of all community members. The newly renovated Gallery at 449 Dundas St. occupies two floors of the former historical John White Building that is located in the heart of downtown, opposite Museum Square.

Each year WAG invites artists to submit their artwork to be juried for an exhibit.

An Opening Reception and Awards Ceremony were held on October 12th, 2013. If you missed this great event you still have time to drop in to the gallery and view the artwork until December 7th, 2013.

The show was open to painters, potters, photographers and other forms of art. The artwork is judged on technical skill, creativity, the medium, and/or other requirements. No manufactured/imported items were allowed.

The response to this exhibit was overwhelming and the gallery received (approximately) 90 entries. Out of those entries 42 artists were chosen to exhibit their artwork.

We are proud to say that the work of six members of the Woodstock Camera Club were chosen. What an honour to be in a Juried Art Show and to see photographic art being accepted in the art world.

We would also like to congratulate the winner of the 'Best of Show' Michael Hunter of Woodstock

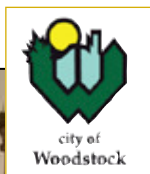


John Novak, Browyn Moody, Bruce Hartley, Karen Guthrie, Ralph Boniface, Kent Garrett.

and the 'Jurors' Choices' Michael de Belleval of Woodstock and Lisa Gerrard of London.

Do you have images of which you are particularly proud? Why not take the next step and enter them in a juried show? Some WCC members have taken that step and have found it very rewarding. Keep in mind that entering art shows is also a great way to gain exposure for your work.





The City of Woodstock Photo Contest



Mayor Pat Sobeski, Jerry Cornell, Linda Feick

During the month of September 2013 the City of Woodstock ran a photo contest that offered a great first prize, a \$500.00 VIA Rail Gift Certificate along with \$50.00 Gift Certificates for the other winners.

The contest consisted of 6 categories that attracted 160 entries, some likely being WCC members. We understand that the contest will run again in 2015 and would encourage club members to take part.

Woodstock Camera Club members Linda Feick and Jerry Cornell joined Woodstock Mayor Pat Sobeski on October 3rd. to judge the photographs where the category winners were selected as well as an overall winning photograph for the Top Prize. The image of Southside Park showing on the screen in the photograph of the judges is the overall winning shot by Keith Boulter.

Submitted by Jerry Cornell

WCC members judged fair photo contests

Once again the Woodstock Camera Club judges were invited to judge this summer at local fairs. Linda Feick volunteered to judge the 2013 Woodstock Fair Photo Contest. Vic Whitcroft and Linda Feick judged at the Simcoe Fair along with Karen Stoyles of the Brant Camera Club.



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Randy Young President



I have been looking at photographs lately. Some first nation cultures believe you capture a piece of a person's soul in their photograph.

I have been looking at photographs that date from the turn of the century. Relatives of my maternal grandmother's family stare at the photographer's lens with trepidation or disdain.

Special family gatherings, single portraits and environmental scenes tell their stories. Names and relationships are lost to the mists of time. We attempt to identify faces based solely on familiar features. The same eyes, nose or hairline are the only clues we have to go by.

In the nineteen fifties and sixties the photographers were my parents. Mostly smiling faces at this event, vacation spot or that park. Each photo has a story. A place, date and circumstance relayed by oral histories. I think they should be written down. Recorded for the times when our memories fade.

By the nineteen seventies I was the photographer. I remember the season, a story or two about the day, I even can conjure up the smells for some of them; a day at the dock side, in the gymnasium at school or in the kitchen with my mother-in-law making perogies. I do not remember the dates and most of the names are lost. People and places I spent quite a lot of time with that are now gone.

Recently, our Shetland Sheep-dog, Jake died. We are grateful for the numerous photos we have of sharing fourteen very special years with him. His soul shines through each and every photograph and video taken. They comfort and bring smiles to the faces of all that were touched by him.

October 19th some of the Woodstock Camera Club members joined Colleen and I at McLean's Auto Wreckers for an opportunity to capture a memory or two from our own unique pasts. Seeing the old cars and trucks in their final (?) resting place among the Cedar trees and vines we were reminded of old times when these were brand new and the point of pride of ownership to some family. I placed the question mark there due to the fact there were some people there that day with their children recovering parts to use in a restoration project they had at home. Some parts of these rusting hulks will live again as the point of pride of some shining old classic car or truck in the next season's car shows. The rest will live on in the collection of photographs by members of the Woodstock Camera Club and the many others that have walked Messrs. McLean's farm.

Colleen is going to arrange another visit in January possibly if there is sufficient snow fall. Have a great Holiday Season and we will see you at the club.

Randy Young

Bill Thompson Program Chair



I have never seen a group that laughs so much, photographers or otherwise. You are a very healthy and energetic group to be around and I am always appreciative of that.

Peter Ferguson, in his talk, reminded me of this when he mentioned right brained and left brained photographers. We must have a lot of right brained people among us with all this laughter. Although I have never noticed that characteristic on the list between right and left, I can't imagine the analytical left brainers claiming that as one of their items. More power to them if they do. Have you noticed that many of the jokes offered by speakers have a technical aspect to them, and you have to have a grasp of the technical to get the joke?

Our laughter shows we are very knowledgeable indeed.

There were many positive comments after Peter's presentation, and Tom Vogel's for that matter. I don't know which of them told the most jokes, but there was a lot of laughter during each session. If they were using humour as an instrument to bolster memory, and it certainly worked to keep our attention, we all must be learning a lot.

I think it also shows we are pretty comfortable as a group. It's an enjoyable type of laughter and feels very relaxed. I feel like I can go out on a limb with a comment or suggestion and feel friendly support for my trouble.

Our photography should be enjoyable. Whether you lean to the creative or the technical we are all doing something we love to do. What better way to do it than with people who share that passion? It's an added bonus that they laugh a lot too.

Bill Thompson

Bob Bembridge Communications



Hello all, just a few short words about my role in the Woodstock Camera Club.

The email program seems to be working well after a few glitches were resolved. My apologies to those of you who received 20 or so duplicate emails. That was embarrassing! If you are not getting club emails please contact me using the address on the "contacts" page of the website.

The website has been revamped and a number of the executive do have the capability of posting their comments and thank you Randy for your contributions. I do have a members' only section on the web page, but that is under construction as I have yet to figure out what to put on it. I attended a SWOPA meeting today and now I may have some ideas.

We also have a Facebook page to compliment the web page and it can be helpful for things like posting cancellations. I have received two enquiries from people interested in joining the WCC from the Facebook page and four people from the website. Considering that the Facebook page has only been up about a month, I consider that a good result.

Bob Bembridge

**FOR SALE: 67 mm circular polarizer. Price \$30.
Contact Harold Watling - WCC member**

Tips on Shooting Christmas Lights

Christmas lights are beautiful - but how do you capture their beauty in photos? Dim light, flickering lights and various backgrounds can all make photographing Christmas lights a little tricky. Photograph outdoor Christmas lights in the late afternoon, in the "magic hour" just before it begins to get dark (dusk). Taking pictures during dusk will often get you a lovely atmosphere shimmering with vibrant background colours. Plus, the background will still be slightly visible, adding textural contrast instead a black back ground.

Be patient; you may need to take quite a few photos before the sky and lights appear "just right" together. As a rule of thumb, take a lot of pictures. In the digital age, it's probably best to take too many pictures than not enough. Other objects such as trees, lampposts, buildings, and landmarks may also improve the composition of your pictures. Check around for the best overall appearance.

Prevent movement as much as possible. Use a tripod or lean on something solid such as a wall or fence to stabilize the camera. This will give you the best photo result. Time shutter release can also work effectively to prevent blurring, as can using shutter release cables. Couple these two techniques with a tripod for best results. Dress warmly and take extra batteries because the cold can affect them.

Discovering how paint is made at Home Hardware in Burford!

On November 5th, members visited the Home Hardware, Paint and Home Products Division located in Burford, Ontario. The plant & laboratory facilities constitutes one of the most modern paint manufacturing facilities in North America. The Division supplies a full range of interior & exterior paint products, including primers, wall and trim paints, stains, varnishes, finishes with an extensive modern colour system.

Bonnie Hewitt, a past employee of this division arranged for the photographers to tour the plant and take images. Lisa and Dave, took time out of their busy working schedule to tour the members throughout the plant and explained every stage of making paint.

There were photo opportunities everywhere - old and new paint cans, tools, hoses and even layers of paint that had accumulated throughout the years.

Thank you to Home Hardware and Bonnie for giving us this great opportunity.



(Top photo - Lisa and Dave our tour guides.)
Bonnie Hewitt, Ruth Ann Rule,
Keith Thompson, Lee Ann Creery,
Bill Thompson,
Pat Foord, Gerald Junker and Bill Hall



Camera Club Members visit Emerald Isle, Ireland



It was great to have some members of the Woodstock Camera Club join James and Dave on a Photo Tour to the Emerald Isle, August 17th this year.

The design of this photo tour was to experience the beautiful landscape of the countryside and how old meets new in several Irish cities. We accomplished both and our photographers came home with some amazing images from our journey.

Some highlights were an early morning visit to the Cliffs of Moher on the coast near Galway. The Marble Arch Caves, which are a hidden treasure of Northern Ireland just outside the village of Enniskillen, and the Sleeve League Cliffs that tower 1750 feet above the ocean floor on the north west coast of Ireland. We also held photo shoots at many abbeys, castles and old forts. Many have been in ruins for centuries and added to the photographic possibilities, with a great bonus photo opportunity at Dark Hedges, for any of you Game of Thrones fans. We also spent time exploring and photographing in Londonderry, Belfast and Dublin.

While in Belfast we visited the Titanic Exhibit, which is located on the slipway where the famous ocean liner was built. Photo Tour Trekkers made arrangements to hire the exhibit for the evening, and our twenty-nine photographers had plenty of time to enjoy the experience, followed by a visit to the 12th floor Bridge Lounge for a Titanic style dinner.

At the dinner it was a great honor to acknowledge several of the guests that had now been on 10 Photo Tour Trekkers Tours. One of the guests was from the Woodstock Camera Club, and I would like to pass on congratulations to **Jerry Cornell** as it has been a real pleasure photographing and traveling with you to some of the world's greatest treasures.

We wrapped up our photo tour with three days in Dublin. This city offers so many photo opportunities and things to experience. While in the city we visited and photographed at St. Patrick's Cathedral, along the banks of the River Liffey, and what visit to Dublin would be complete without a



visit to the Guinness Store House. We wrapped up our Ireland experience with a pub night farewell dinner at the Merry Ploughboys complete with traditional music and Irish dancers.

Ireland was a great experience, I know as with all our treks, new friendships have been formed and memories created to share for years to come. Dave Chidley who was co-host on this tour and myself would like to thank the members of the Woodstock Camera Club, Kim Eller, Karen Guthrie, Janet Nymeyer, Bob and Gail Steer and Jerry Cornell for joining us on this tour.

I would also like to thank all the members of the Woodstock Camera Club as many of you have traveled with us in the past and I look forward to sharing future adventures with you.

James Cowie