



imagery

November 2015

Volume 40:03



Embrace/Touch © Arghya Basu

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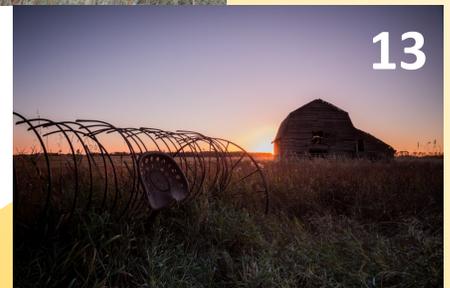
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I spent Sunday (Nov 1) at the Images Alberta Camera Club booth at the Edmonton Photographic Tradeshow.

It's the 4th, perhaps 5th, time that I've done that, and I was reflecting on how my experience has changed over the years.

When I first did it, I was a neophyte photographer and I found it a little intimidating to be talking with photographers, including very experienced photographers, about our club. I now feel more comfortable talking to others about our club and what we do, and to answer their questions about photography.

Our booth attracted a fair amount of interest. Many of the people who stopped by had heard about our club and were curious to know more. They seemed legitimately impressed as we outlined our activities and what we have to offer, particularly our ability to secure behind-the-scenes access for our members at outings and workshops; e.g. the upcoming trip to the Reynolds-Alberta Museum.

The tradeshow, as usual, had many booths and I spent a bit of time wandering around and chatting with the various camera manufacturer representatives regarding putting on a demo for our members. I approached people from local training and learning centres regarding how we could collaborate on some initiatives. I also had a good chat with Leo de Groot, president of the Central Alberta Photographic Society in Red Deer, about organizing some kind of joint event.

Thanks to the other club members who helped out: Bob and Wendy Royer, Lorian Kennedy, Jane Chesebrough, Vladimir Khlebnikov, Arghya Basu, Gilles Simard, Anne Pellatt, Colleen Sayer, Ron Ross, Karen Albert.



PROGRAM 2015 (NOVEMBER DECEMBER)

Program for 2015 (Nov / Dec)

The hall opens at 6:30 p.m. and the meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

Nov 12 2015

GUEST SPEAKER: Daniel Sundahl

DanSun Photo Art: Capturing Emotion in Photography

MEMBER SHOWCASE: Steven Li

Chasing Wonderland

Nov 26 2015

COMPETITION NIGHT

THEME: Cities

Dec 10 2015

Christmas Social Evening



PLANNED OUTINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Saturday November 14, 2015 Salisbury Greenhouse

Time: 9:00 a.m. to noon

Cost: Free

Location: Salisbury Greenhouse, Sherwood Park <http://salisburygreenhouse.com/>

Registration: LIMITED to 40

Registration deadline: Midnight November 12, 2015

Consult the IACC outings webpage for additional information: <http://www.imagesalberta.ca/outings-2015.html>

NOVEMBER WORKSHOPS

Subject: From Good to Great! Simple approaches to Improve Your Photographs

When: Sunday November 29, 2015

Time: 1:30pm to 4:00 pm.

Cost: Free

Location: Whitemud Crossing Library Theater 4211-106 Street Edmonton

Host: Scott Henderson

Number of participants: 125

Deadline for Registration:

Workshop Description:

Intended for beginners, Scott will teach basic approaches for improving your photographs, then he will carry on to introduce you to some more advanced techniques. You will learn how to work with your environment to get the best shot possible, and how you can improve your shots using simple software long after you took the original photograph.

DECEMBER WORKSHOPS

Subject: Matt Cutting: Hands-On Workshop

When: Friday December 11, 2015 (A second workshop will be offered in January, date to be determined)

Time: 7:00 pm.

Cost: Free

Location: Zbigniew Gortel's home, Edmonton

Host: Zbigniew Gortel

Number of participants: 8

Deadline for Registration: November 27, 2015

Workshop Description:

Description of the equipment needed. The handout will provide information on equipment and supplies as well as local sources. Zbigniew will demonstrate step by step the process of cutting the matt, measuring and cutting the window and attaching the photograph. Each participant will then execute the entire process using the image which he/she would bring (I suggest everyone bringing an image not larger than 8x10 in). Foam core mounting techniques will be covered if time permits.



October Members Showcase

Nature Too Far, Too Small, Too Fast - Seen Through The Lens

By Heather Kuchma

Roger's interest in photography started during childhood - his "Free Range" childhood as he phrased it. Being outdoors, able to observe wildlife, going on frog catching expeditions, butterfly chases, a mischievous antic or two involving strategic placements of garter snakes...

Roger received his first camera at age 8, a Bilora Bella 3c with fully manual controls. This allowed the combination of two interests, nature and photography. The butterflies no longer got away, however the minimum focusing distance was way too large, so the butterflies were too small on the negatives... He was still able to capture landscapes while on family vacations, and architectural details, with a noted fondness for gargoyles. Also family photos, with a strong preference to be in front of the camera rather than behind.

As a teenager Roger was gifted a 35mm film camera from his godmother, later moving to the purchase of his first SLR while at University and eventually a DSLR in 2010. The DSLR was accompanied by a telephoto lens, soon followed by macro gear.

This hardware would allow Roger to explore and enjoy photography of subjects that are:

- Too far to see with eye
- Too small to see with eye
- Events that happen too fast to see with eye.

These elements encompass the theme of Roger's showcase.

In addition to a very informative and humorous presentation Roger displayed a collection of printed images. He hopes other members invited to showcase their work this season will embrace the opportunity to share printed work in addition to their digital presentation. As he felt it acted as a wonderful ice breaker, allowed for new and different conversations with fellow members, plus the added bonus of sharing additional images (as there are only so many one can successfully present in 10-15 minutes).



Richard Wear: Going Far Afield to Capture Images

by Vincent Morban, IACC Treasurer

On October 8, 2015, IACC members enjoyed learning about the photographic experiences of Richard Wear, an award-winning photographer whose works are represented by numerous galleries and are published in several photo magazines.

As a young boy in Saskatoon, Richard was into street photography. He used film, rented darkroom space and used a box camera with no controls. He is a graduate of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton in photographic arts and has a history as an IACC Club member and judge.

Now a young retiree, Richard's favorite subjects seem to be wildlife, landscape and people. He has gone far afield to capture his images (grizzly bear in Alaska; elephants, giraffes, rhinos, zebras, leopards and lions and hippos in Africa; tigers in India; birds in Iceland).

His landscapes are sometimes:

simple and colourful like his "Slot Canyon" images and "Prairie Storm; or powerful like "Winter Blizzard on the Prairies", a black and white that conveys the raw power of a chilling winter storm; or tender like "Mozart", which shows the softness of the early morning.

Of his western themed images, my favourite is "Lasso Cowboy," with its sepia tone, depth of field and almost silhouette that is perfectly suited to the subject matter. Of his India themed images, my favourite is the shot of a clerk in a shop, which is a strong black and white portrait, with immaculate lighting and composition. Of his black and whites, my favourite is his composite of a man climbing the walls in his jail cell, which is noteworthy for its creativity and use of strong black and white contrast.

Richard shared some of his learnings over the years:

- Persevere because wildlife photography takes patience and commitment.
- Rent, don't buy the big expensive lenses.
- Remember that with landscapes you can go back and photograph, but fauna are one shot opportunities.
- Bracket once for sky with landscapes and once for foreground to equalize image.
- Shoot to the right on histogram, but don't blow out colours. This gives less noise in shadows and captures more detail.
- Use neutral density filters (ND) to slow things down.
- Shoot snowflakes or frost using a darker background.
- Visualize your shot (don't they say that for golf too?).
- Bracket rather than using HDR.
- Use wide angle for the big picture in landscapes, but use telephoto for close ups in landscapes.
- Get more powerful images using back lighting of fauna.
- Keep batteries warm in cold conditions by having them close to, but not next to, your body.
- Keep your camera cooler to avoid condensation on the camera body and slowly transition to warmer environments.
- Use photoshop to change day to night.

It was a very interesting presentation, full of powerful images that showed Richard's journey through photography over the last 40 years. His approach to subject matter and technique changed dramatically, although the basics from the days of manual film are still there, ensuring his success in today's digital world.



Slot Canyon © Richard Wear



Lasso Cowboy © Richard Wear

OCTOBER COMPETITION RESULTS
CATEGORY: THEME DIGITAL PROJECTION



First Place Hands © Homayoun Atarodifarad



Second Place eyeWonder © Linda Treleaven



Third Place Taste Tester

© Brenda Jackson



OCTOBER COMPETITION RESULTS

CATEGORY: OPEN DIGITAL PROJECTION



First Place (tie) My Dad's Violin © Vincent Morban



First Place (tie) Burnt © Wendy Royer



Second Place (tie) Fire and Ice © Steve Ricketts



Second Place (tie) True Grit and Grace © Terri Ross



Third Place Foggy Harbour © Carol Rusinek

OCTOBER COMPETITION RESULTS

CATEGORY: THEME PRINT



First Place Flash - Boom © Bruce Smith



Second Place Embrace/Touch © Arghya Basu



Third Place (tie) The Book Of Genesis

Shelia Holzer



Third Place (tie) Ode to Monet © Linda Treleaven



OCTOBER COMPETITION RESULTS

CATEGORY: OPEN PRINT



First Place Havana © Carol Rusinek



Second Place Remnants © Bob Royer



Third Place Tranquility © Nora Hartfelder

ALDONS AUTO SALVAGE OUTING

By Nancy Childs

ALDONS - JUNK PILE OR TREASURE TROVE?

It's fair to say I approached this outing with some trepidation. Being a novice photographer I rely on great subject material to get a marginal result. This combined with memories of other auto wrecking yards was making it difficult for me to visualize strong composition possibilities. However, I thought there must be reasons this outing is a long standing tradition for the camera club, well attended and enjoyed by so many members.

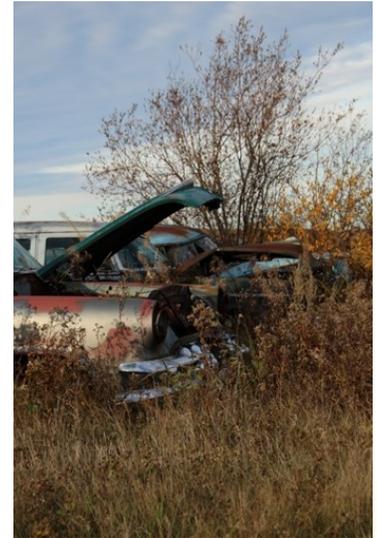
By the end of the outing, I was a believer.

First of all, it is a really big site, with so much different subject material to shoot. The large number of participating photographers dispersed through the field and very rarely did one of us interfere with each other's shot. The yard area is very organized and tidy, the neat rows made for good leading lines. The natural plant material growing in and around the vehicles provides some contrasting textures.

As always, we have our individual perspectives. It was fun to roam around and chat with fellow photographers who were shooting different views of the yard. The macro views of rust patterns, chrome and tail lights. Heather was getting more "Bender" shots for her collection and gave me tips on getting some myself. Wide angle shots show the yard in a much different perspective vs the close up images.

There is something for everyone! The diversity of the photographers viewpoints is reflected in IACC Facebook pictures. Seeing other club members technical and creative excellence inspires me to keep working at this wonderful hobby.

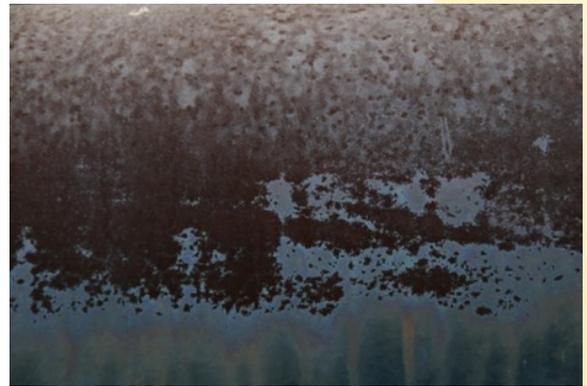
It was a beautiful day which adds to any experience. One of the great benefits of the camera club outings is being outdoors with a purpose. Surprisingly, there was peace and tranquility amid the rusting vehicles. A big clear sky covering this interesting site contributed to a wonderful day spent in rural Alberta



© Nancy Childs



© Nancy Childs



© Nancy Childs



SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT COMPETITIONS

By Kirby Price

I joined Images Alberta Camera Club in 2012 with the expectation of spending time with other photographers and like minded people, and probably, eventually learning a few things from other club members.

My initial reaction when I attended my first competition was:

WOW!!! These images are fantastic!!!

It will be a long time before my skills develop enough to compete at this level!!

My second and stronger reaction was to be inspired!! I was inspired to explore and expand what I considered was possible with a camera, and it was a whole lot more than I had considered in the past. I realized before I had a lot to learn, but now it was even more how little I knew about photography. I figured now is a good time to start!

I worked to create an image and submit it in the next competition, in my second month of membership. Being my first attempt at competing, I figured I would start small and only enter in one category, and I entered the Digital Themed category "Noise" in October 2012.

My submission "Harley Tailpipes" resulted in a First Place, which was very unexpected. Again, I was inspired, to continue to enter future competitions. Winning competitions is nice (but certainly not expected or frequent), but I've learned it's not my primary motivation. To me, what is much more significant than winning, is the skill development that has occurred. The competition critiques (mostly complimentary and always positive) have provided valuable feedback and learning opportunities. I've also tried many different techniques, methods, genres, and subject materials to create some good, and many not so good images. Entering competitions motivated me to push my personal limits and develop my skills in a way that would not have occurred otherwise.

I'd like to close by sharing some of my key learnings regarding competitions:

- Try to enter as often as possible, at the very least it will be an opportunity to learn something. You cannot learn anything (or win) if you don't enter.
- When creating images, don't be afraid to try something different, get out of your comfort zone.
- The (voting) crowd is fickle, create the images you want, even if you do not win a competition you will like your images.
- Never stop learning.
- Have fun!!!

All images on this page © Kirby Price



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Essential Ingredients

IACC NEWSLETTER: Please submit articles and photographs to: imagery@imagesalberta.ca

DEADLINE for the **December / January** edition is **January 1, 2016**.

IACC WEBSITE: Members are encouraged to submit samples of their work for the website at webmaster@imagesalberta.ca.

IACC FACEBOOK: join us on Facebook and receive the latest news on upcoming events: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/imagesalberta/>.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIPS:



Canadian Association for Photographic Arts (CAPA) www.capacanada.ca



Photographic Society of America (PSA) www.psa-photo.org

CLUB MEETINGS are held at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month from September to May (except in December: 2nd Thursday only). Location: Pleasantview Community Hall: 10860–57 Avenue, Edmonton, AB. Visitors are welcome to attend two meetings to determine if they wish to join the Club. You must be a member to attend outings and workshops and/or to participate in competitions.

NEW MAILING ADDRESS is Images Alberta Camera Club, PO Box 29015, Pleasantview PO, Edmonton, AB T6H 5Z6

