

VIEWFINDER

Welcome Back Everyone. Our first day back is Monday, **September 10th** and we have a very exciting guest to start our 2012-2013 year.

Come out and join us for this exciting start to a year that promises to be full of fabulous presentations, seminars and competitions. Thanks to Jocelyn Ubaldino and her team for a great line-up.

September Meetings

September 10th

Ethan Meleg, *Confessions of a Crazy Photographer*

September 17th

Paul Sparrow, *Creating an AV Show*

September 22th

Outing - Centre Island, 4:30pm

September 24th

New Members Night

Ethan Meleg - Our first guest speaker

Ethan will be presenting *Confessions of a Crazy Photographer*. The subheading of this presentation is *The Passion of Nature Photography* and he will talk about the lengths he has gone to get that perfect shot.

Ethan is a passionate outdoor photographer. Crawling through mud, enduring intense temperatures and testing his endurance to the limits are just some of the what Ethan has endured for his craft. Often, these feats of strength/endurance are completed while carrying 40 pounds of camera gear!



In This Issue

Ethan Meleg at Opening Night

Photographer's Choice Gold

Member Profile

Ad Hoc Outing - Downtown

Image Size Experiment

Ad Hoc Outing - Quilt Fever

Juried Exhibition -

What I Learned

GTCCC Update

Ad Hoc Outing - Cobourg

ECC Annual Banquet

Smile

The quickest way to make money at photography is to sell your camera. -

Anonymous



Photographer's Choice Competition Golds



Image of the Month

Ronnie Hawkins Profile

Irene Barton



Great Egret

Roger Woods

DNA and Tower

John Roias

Member Profile: Marilyn Wright

Meet Marilyn Wright, a very active and skilled photographer, and a relatively new member of the Etobicoke Camera Club. This is our 2nd member profile, in a series that will hopefully cover a cross-section of our membership and give us the opportunity to learn a bit more about the wonderful folks that belong to the ECC.

Gunter Haibach

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO PHOTOGRAPHY?

Picture the late 70's—roller skating on four wheels at the Olympium, disco dances, house parties, track and field events, the prom; as a growing teen my world was full of excitement and adventure. I remember capturing many of those moments with my simple Kodak film camera and it was then that I realized how powerful and meaningful photography could be. Travel and having a child just reinforced the passion.

FAVOURITE SUBJECT MATTER, AND WHY?

Someone once told me that a place that is filled with the songs of birds is a happy, vibrant and healthy place to be. Birds are unique, brilliant, beautiful, magical (they fly!) and elusive; to have the opportunity to observe and photograph them is personally rewarding. I also enjoy other nature photography but especially wildlife/animals.

THOUGHTS ON MANIPULATION – IN CAMERA AND POST PROCESSING?

A camera can be quite a powerful tool but my preference is to approach my subjects as simply as possible. It also means that I don't have the patience to play with ISO's and such. Yet, there is a sense of elation to work with the images afterwards using software that can dramatically change and improve the quality of what I first captured. I find that it is amazing to turn something plain into a photo worthy of framing.



IN WHAT AREAS WOULD YOU LIKE TO IMPROVE?

The honest answer is that I would like to learn to use my SLR more effectively so that it is with ease that I may control the settings. And with the ever-evolving elements of Photoshop and Light Room, I hope that one day I will master the majority of processing options and use them to the maximum advantage for my photos.

WHAT IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE THING YOU'VE LEARNED ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY?

Crop out the distractions; increase the contrast; saturate moderately but above all, ensure that everything is sharp!

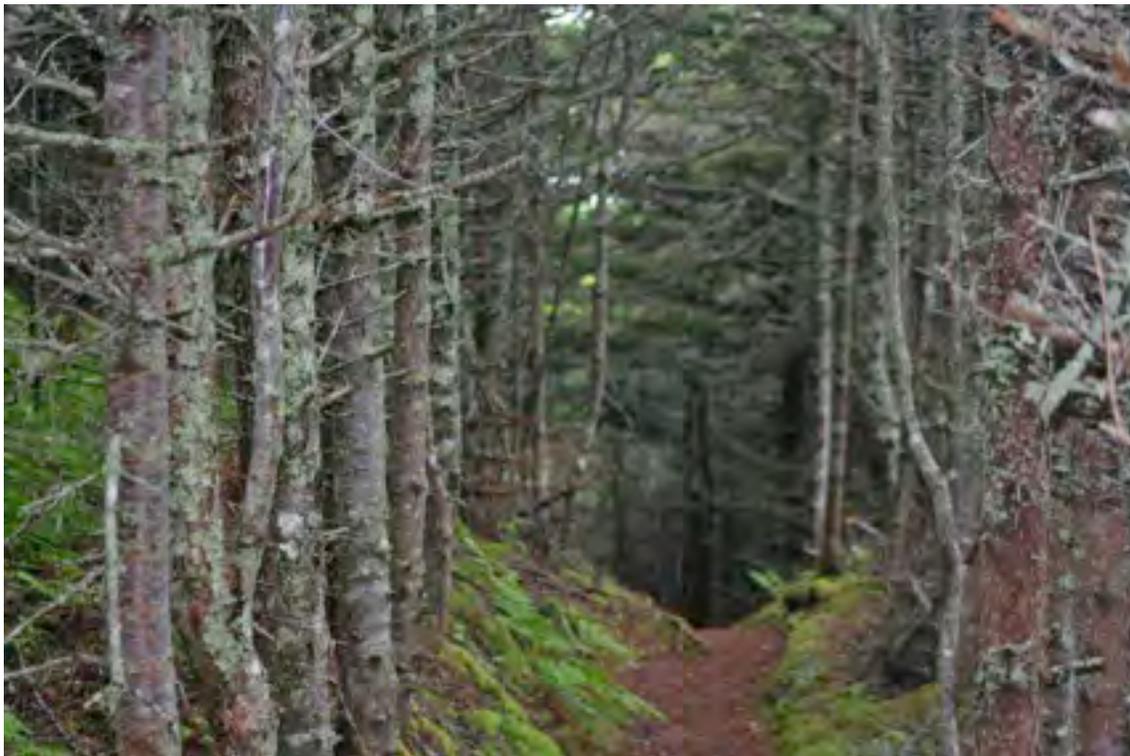
Member Profile: Marilyn Wright, con't**TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF**

I feel fortunate to have had a pretty-well carefree childhood growing up in Etobicoke, which I still call home. My 20 year old son and I share an appreciation of nature and are both known to run to grab the binoculars to see the Flicker, Hawk, Creeper, Dark-eyed Juncos, Cardinals and other birds that have visited our green sanctuary that we call a backyard. We also share the 'travel bug' and have travelled extensively since he was three, crossing Canada (to the east and west) twice! Our favourite travel destinations include Newfoundland and, definitely for me, Costa Rica. A dream was to visit my birthplace in East Africa last summer; it was made extra-special because of the work that we (our group) did within an impoverished community. Africa is a photographer's paradise!

My job as a senior manager of a number of programs within the Toronto Catholic District School Board is challenging (in a good way) and satisfying. I truly enjoy my work and I feel that I am making a difference in the lives of children and their families.

WHAT IS IN YOUR BAG ?

I've been a 'Canon' girl for many years now (currently with the Rebel T2i) but I must admit that my Lumix cameras have provided me with much joy as well. I always try to have my 75 x 300mm Canon lens with me when I travel and my Olympus underwater camera. Also, my Canon Powershot SX210 IS (14x optical zoom) is invaluable.



This photo, taken on a hike in Cow's Head, Newfoundland, reminds me about the journey ahead; about the mystery, beauty and wonder that may be encountered. On a creative level, the image encourages me to strive to sharpen my skills so that the clarity will be perfect the next time I press the shutter and photograph this special place.

*Ad Hoc Outing
Night Shots from Yonge & Bloor*



Images by Frank Job



Images by John Roias

Update to Projected Image Size Experiment: PC2

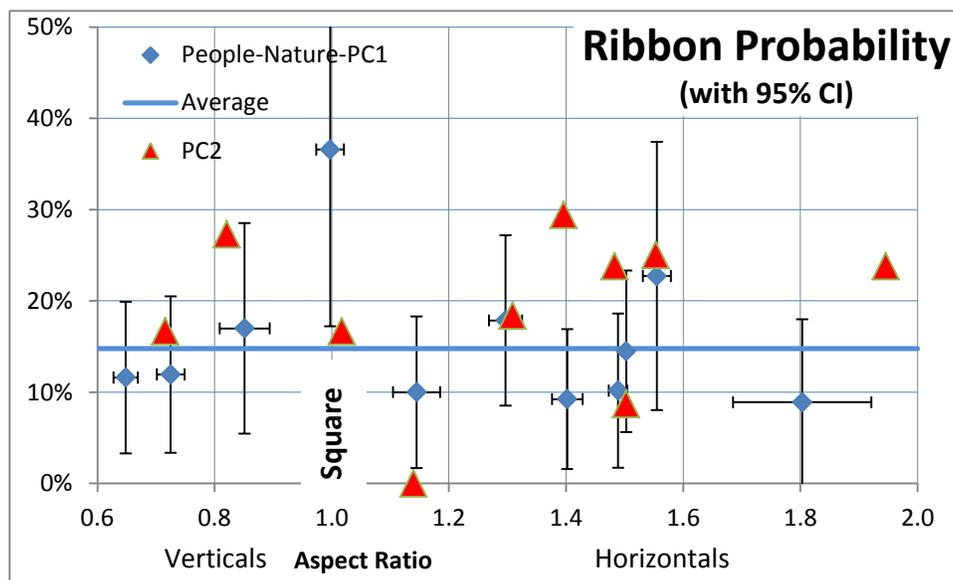
by Tony Paine

The Photographer’s Choice #2 competition was held with a competition envelope of 1400 horizontal pixels by 1050 vertical pixels to match our projector output. In the past we have used a square competition envelope of 1050x1050 pixels.

The following figures show that the results of competition are not dependent on image area nor image aspect ratio, so going to the rectangular projected image envelope does NOT introduce scoring biases (as measured by ribbon probability).

So far, feedback is running positive by about 5 to 1 against negative for the change, with most members being silent. Please continue to give your feedback on the experiment to me or to other members of the Board. Based on the positive experience, I intend to recommend a permanent change to 1400x1050 pixels for the 2012-12 season.

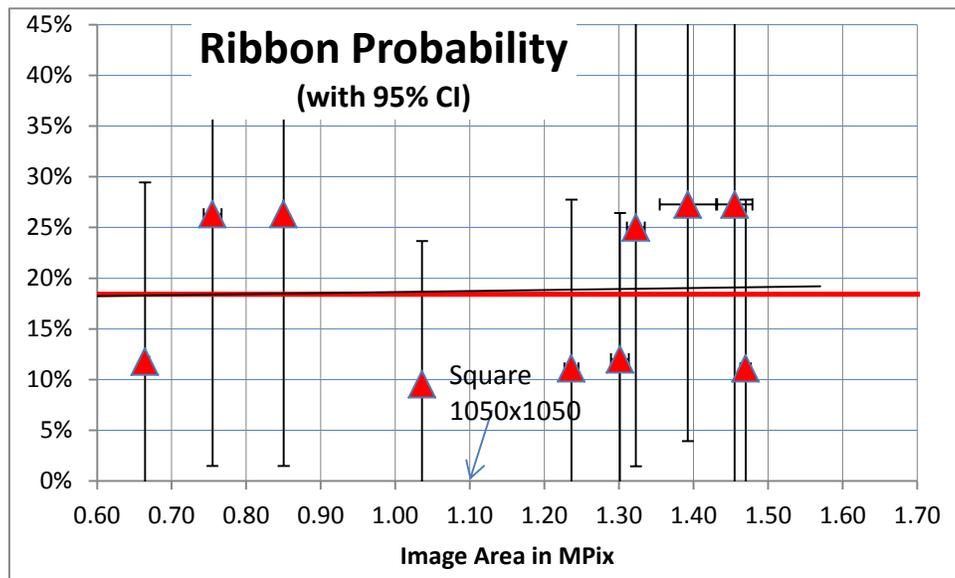
Figure 1: Ribbon Probability Does Not Depend on Image Aspect Ratio



Here we show the image aspect ratio (width/height) on the X-axis and ribbon winning probability on the Y-axis. The Blue data with the 95% confidence intervals is the same already shown for combined PC1&Nature&People competitions. The Red data points are for the PC2 competition with 1400x1050 pixel envelope.

There is no significant difference between the PC2 results and the prior results, both of which show no effect of aspect ratio on ribbon-winning probability. Therefore, a rectangular competition envelope does not unfairly discriminate against vertical compositions.

Figure 2: Ribbon Probability Does Not Depend on Image Size (in Mega Pixels)



While a 1400x1050 competition envelope allows larger projected images than a 1050x1050 competition envelope, there is no significant relationship between image size and the probability of winning a ribbon. Here, the average (solid red line for PC2 data) is essentially the same as the naive regression line (thin black line slightly above the red line on the right side), and all confidence intervals cross the red line, so winning a ribbon does not depend on overall image size.

*Ad Hoc Outing
Quilt Fever 2012*



Images by Judy Roe



Quilts photographed with permission of the maker, Nancy King

Juried Exhibition - What I Learned

Gunter Haibach

In my continuing efforts to create better pictures, I decided to enter a Juried Exhibition (Latow Photographers Guild) of framed prints in the hopes of getting some constructive feedback on my favourite 3 images (and also make a little money to pay for the framing and, what else, recognition!!!!).

The Juror was Susan Dobson, a highly respected Photo Based Artist and Associate Professor of Art at the University Of Guelph. Her photographs have been exhibited across Canada, as well as the U.S., U.K., Belgium, China, Germany, Spain, and Mexico.

I really enjoyed the experience and learned a lot. The judging is similar, but also very different to what I'm used to at our club.

Obviously the judging is very subjective in both instances.

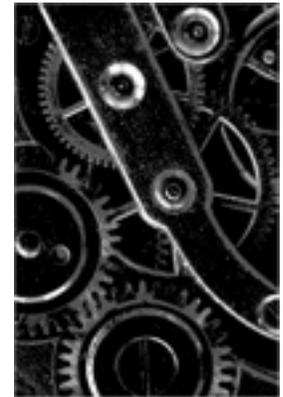
However in this particular situation, the success criteria was quite different, and in some ways, very surprising to me.



Images hardly ever considered for selection by the Juror included subjects like flowers, sunrises, tourist destinations, birds, or other subjects considered generally as 'overused' - unless they also evoked a very strong emotional reaction by the viewer. The image must be so engaging to almost force the viewer to spend considerable time examining it - a few minutes at a minimum, and often returning for another look, and in some instances a 3rd or 4th look. This significant amount of time is also required to try to understand the makers intent and for the imagination to kick in.

Etobicoke Camera Club

The selected works must have meaning, expressing the makers thoughts, and feelings. This particular Juror also favoured the use of very subtle colours, mono-colour, and B&W. Bottom line - the images selected needed to 'stand out from the crowd' and were very heavily weighted towards emotional impact vs technical perfection. As a matter of fact, one of the pictures selected was soft, not very well exposed, had a strange colour cast, and had no strong centre of interest - but created a fantastic, strong moody feeling.



The Juror explained that when 'overused/stale' subject matter images are viewed (although beautiful and technically perfect), they tend to get a 'short-look' before they're dismissed, because there are so many of this particular subject in our photography world. This dramatic increase in images has been driven mostly by 3 factors - The growth of photography in the Digital/Photoshop era, the millions of new photographers using their cell phones to make pictures and the very powerful publishing power by social media web-sites like Flickr and Facebook. Many millions of images are created and published weekly and the eye and brain have become numbed with many similar images of flowers, sunsets, birds, etc. It becomes extremely difficult (and time consuming) to differentiate one beautiful flower image from hundreds of similar ones.

In this Juried Exhibition the presentation of the image was recognized as very important - framing, matting, canvas size. Apparently the trend in Gallery displays is away from framing, with the image attached to a (mostly) white board. When traditionally framed, often the glass is left out for judging, and inserted afterwards. The title of the image (shown on the face of the image) is also critically important, as it helps the juror to appreciate what the maker had in mind. Larger mats with small images are also very popular.

Page 8

Out of 89 pictures entered, the Juror selected 18 that met her criteria - including a Jurors Choice, and 2 H.M's. She also provided individual feedback on some images that were not selected - a very nice touch.

Of the 18 selected images, the most common features were - 9 B&W, 5 Very Muted Colours, 7 Architectual, 7 Geometric designs.

So at the end of the day, I took my 3 images home (2 of flowers on 1 B&W creative) - obviously no money or recognition - and hung them in my home and they look great. And the day after, I was back shooting some tulips!!!! Sorry, Susan, but thanks for expanding my knowledge of photographic art.

Although the images I'm creating are often improved by input from those that judge and critique, they have very little impact on what I like to look at or what has meaning for me. I also learned that if you want to impress a judge/Juror who has a strong background in photographic art and art history, don't show up with pictures of flowers!!!!!!



Contributions by

- Irene Barton
- Great Egret
- John Roias
- Gunter Haibach
- Marilyn Wright
- Tony Paine
- Frank Job
- Judy Roe
- Shirley Trentowsky
- Bruce Barton
- Irene Barton
- Sandra Laurin
- John Stevenson

Edited by Catherine Roe

GTCCC Update

CONGRATULATIONS go to the following ECC members for their winning entries in the 2012 GTCCC Interclub Competition:

- Sandra Hawkins 3rd place Digital Nature - White Breasted Nuthatch
- Tony Paine 3 HMs - Rocky Rivulet, Blue Encounter, Encounter on the Inca Trail
- David Falconer 2 HMs - Digital Madonna, Still Waters
- Judy Griffin 2 HMs - Southern Charm, Neon Building
- Kent Wilson - Malachite Kingfisher
- Michel Gagnon - Impressions of Valensole
- Frank Job - Street Man
- Irene Barton - Ronnie Hawkins in Profile
- John Stevenson - Pensive

GTCCC Update cont'd

Although I don't have the names, several other ECC members made the cut and had their images projected on THE BIG SCREEN! Congratulations to them also.

I would also like to thank all the members who participated this year. Thanks also to Frank Job for his technical expertise and help along with June West in serving refreshments on Judging Day.

I look forward to next year when we will do even better!

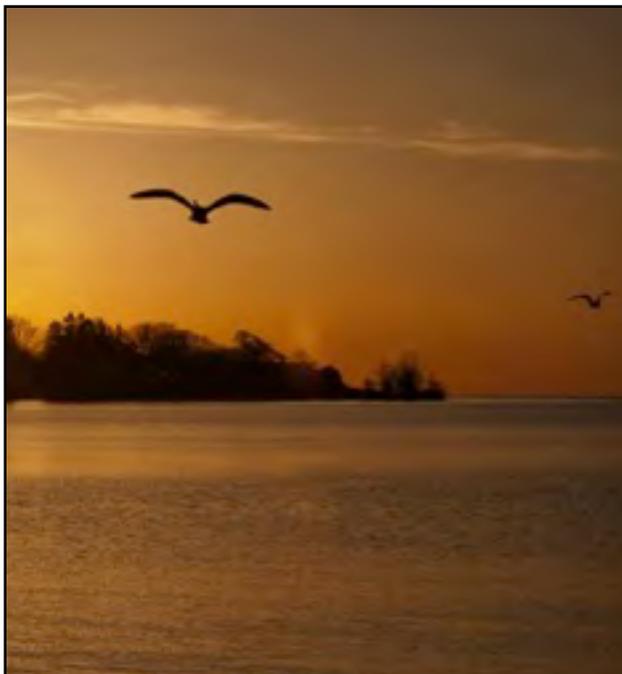
Sandra

"Look for the Light"



Image by Bruce Barton

*Ad Hoc Outing
Cobourg*



Images by Shirley Trentowsky



Image by Judy Roe



Image by Bruce Barton



Image by Irene Barton



ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS & SERVICES IN THE *VIEWFINDER*, THE ECC'S NEWSLETTER, *PUBLISHED FIVE TIMES PER YEAR BETWEEN AUGUST AND APRIL*.

The Etobicoke Camera Club was established in 1957.

The Club averages an membership of 150-175 members.

The *Viewfinder* goes out to each member digitally, and is shared with family and friends.

The *Viewfinder* is also posted on the ECC website, where current as well as prospective new members can access it.

The Club's active season starts in September and ends in May of the following year. A minimum of four issues are published between August and April.

For \$125 a scanned image of your business card will appear in all published editions of the *Viewfinder*. You will receive a receipt for your contribution as a business advertising expense.

Deadline: September 22nd, 2012

For booking, contact Catherine Roe at catherineroe.rogers.com

*ANNUAL BANQUET
May 14th, 2012*

At our Annual Banquet, club members, their friends and family gathered together for a great meal, a time to socialize and congratulate each other for a job well done. Kudos to all of our trophy, certificate and ribbon winners!

Images available on the ECC website



Image of the Year - Marjorie High Kay by Clive Tonge



Silver Remembering by Roger Woods

Honourable Mentions

White-throated Sparrow by Sandra Hawkins, BARD COLLEGE 6225 by Carm Griffin, Special Delivery by Irene Barton, Pensive by John Stevenson, blue Encounter by Tony Paine, Oops! by John Stevenson, madawaska by John Roias, at mammoth hot springs by Ronald Manning, DNA and Tower by John Roias, Red Eyed Tree Frog by Tony Paine, Common Nighthawk by Tony Paine, ROSE STUDY UNFINISHED by Carolyn Francis-Scobie, SOUTHERN CHARM by Judy Griffin, Indomitable by David Falconer

2011-12 ECC Award of Merit Certificate Winners

Clive Tonge was awarded the 3M Trophy for the Image of the Year

Sandra Hawkins was awarded the Bob Campbell Award for Top Nature Photographer

Judy Griffin was awarded the Ted Maginn Certificate with the Highest Aggregate Score during Regular Competitions