

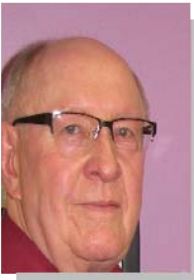
President's Message – John Draper

Our next meeting will be our Annual General Meeting – but with a minimum of boring speeches. It is however, when you get a chance to vote for or against the executive for 2010-11. Last meeting, we introduced the slate of candidates and one of the changes will be that I am stepping aside to let someone with new ideas and energy run the club for the next year. I have been with the club from before its rebirth as the Northumberland Photography Club and it's been an exhilarating experience. Each year we've had special events as well as experienced growth which shows we must be doing something right. But this club exists to meet the needs of its members so if you have any thoughts on what we should be doing, feel free to speak up to one of the executive.



I want to give a personal vote of thanks to the people who have contributed in 2009-10: the members of the executive, the nominating committee, the reach-out group and of course, the workshop committee. No one person can run a club successfully – it needs a team that works together – and that's what we've had. And I'm really happy with the choice of candidates on the slate for election for 2010-11 – I'm sure they'll do a great job in the coming year.

Outings Report - Bob Robertson



June 5th, 2010. Our next outing is to Sandbanks Provincial Park.

When the glaciers receded from what is now southern Ontario, more than 12,700 years ago, they left behind land and water formations much as they are found today. The southern and southwestern shores of what is now Prince Edward County were exposed to the waves driven by prevailing southwesterly winds, creating ideal conditions for the development of baymouth sandbars and dunes.

Two spectacular stretches of sand dunes -- including the West Lake formation, considered the largest freshwater baymouth sand dune system in the world -- make this park unique and memorable. Many of the dunes are between 12 m and 25 m high. The beaches are among the finest in the province, where golden sand and sparkling water make an ideal partnership.

The fauna and flora that thrive in this shifting, arid landscape are remarkably diverse. Some of the more unusual plants found in the park are bluets, hoary puccoon, sea rocket and sand spurge. The open dunes with their juniper heaths, the pine, maple, hemlock

and cedar forests, the pannes (a distinctive coastal meadow marsh found in sandy shorelines) and wetlands all offer a wealth of different species.

There is a per car entrance fee, so we will car pool from the commuter parking lot on Cty. Rd. 45 just north of the 401 Exit at Cobourg, at 9 a.m. (ED. Note: A 'Day Use Park' within a two-minute walk from the West Lake dunes has no entrance fee. See Dawn Knudsen.)

Featured Personality: **Editor's note:** Each month, our newsletter will feature a specific member of our club. The purpose of this is to broaden our awareness of who we are as a group, as well as whom we are as individuals.



MAY'S FEATURED PERSONALITY:

RALPH CURTIS

Place of birth: Toronto
Residential area: Cork Town, ON.
Occupation: Retired



Places you have travelled to: *"I have been fortunate to have traveled to most, if not all, the major cities in Canada and the U.S.A., as well as travelling to Europe on many occasions."*

Favorite hobbies/pastimes: *"A few years ago I would have said racing sailboats in the summer and skiing in the winter. My racing sailboats and skiing are now a thing of the past but I still love the water. My wife and I now have a trawler (a power boat) called YOLO (stands for you only live once) and we spend as much time as possible on the boat in the summer. I have also developed a great love of photography and in the summer I combine boating and photography by taking photos of sailboat races and our other boating adventures."*

When/how did you develop an interest in photography? *"As a former partner in a commercial printing company I was often asked to take part in photo sessions for clients' literature. It fascinated me to see the tricks the photographer would use to make an ordinary product so inviting on film. I also marveled at what our art and prepress department could do in Photoshop and Quark Express."*

Which do you prefer: film or digital photography? Explain why: *"I started to use film with some but not great success. A professional photographer once told me that the difference between a pro and an amateur was the amount of film they used. Or the more photos you take the better your chances of taking a good photo is. About that time a friend of mine was developing the digital camera for Kodak. He said that eventually I would be able to take hundreds of photos without using any film. With his help I acquired my first digital camera. It was a Kodak 1.5 mega pixel point and shoot. The photos were less than great but I could see the potential."*

Featured Personality,

Which camera(s) make(s) and model(s) do you use? "I have a Nikon Coolpix 1500 (12.1 megapixels) a Nikon Dd40X (10.75 megapixels) and a Nikon D200 (10.75 megapixels)." What are your favorite subjects to photograph? Sailboat races, old cars, family events and pets.



s."

Please share with us an amusing, or memorable event you experienced related to photography. "On an early spring boating trip to Oak Orchards, NY, my wife, Donna, and I found a beautiful pair of swans in the river. The water was rising due to the spring runoff and the swans were busy. The female was sitting on the nest and the male was adding reeds to the nest to keep the eggs from getting wet. After many photos of the pair, I asked my wife if she could get a little closer by going down the dock towards them so the male would move away from the nest and I could get photos of the female. It seemed like a good plan at the time but to our surprise the male took exception to Donna's actions and started toward her at a great speed and Donna took off in the opposite direction. I was able to get some great shots of the male in pursuit of Donna and of her running as fast as she could for the road. After the event, when Donna had stopped screaming and yelling at me, she told me in no uncertain terms that I was never ever to use her as bait again!!!"



(Above Photos submitted by Ralph Curtis – Being chased by this brute would be no laughing matter!! Ed.)



photo by Bob Robertson

photo by Bob Robertson

photo by Bob Robertson



Mary's Musings - Mary Talbot

“Things to Look for in Considering Images”

Some years ago I was asked to form a small committee to judge the images for a multi-club photography competition and to develop the guidelines for assigning marks. Eventually I proposed the following categories and things to look for within each of them. We can use guidelines such as these when considering any images – our own or those of our fellow photographers during image discussion. And we can use some aspects to help us when looking at paintings, sculptures, architecture, fabric art, music, gardens.

Technical: focus, lighting, exposure

Composition/design: is the main subject or idea appropriately placed? Is there unity within the whole image? Is it balanced? Are there distractions?

General: Is the image effective? Does the message come across? Does the image have impact/feeling? Does the image engage the viewer's interest? Is it creative?

Submitting one's work to the scrutiny of others takes some courage, especially for those just embarking on their photographic journey. However, this is a subjective process. It isn't a case of “right” and “wrong”, or criticizing – but of sensing what is appropriate and whether it expresses the photographer's vision. And why. No two people feel exactly the same way about the same thing. We each see things from a personal perspective, bringing a lifetime of experience, interests, and emotions to the process. We might feel differently about a piece of art tomorrow from the way we felt about it today.

And each of us can learn from others when we are receptive. Many years ago one of my daughters passed on this quotation to me (author unknown): “The human mind is like an umbrella; it functions better when open.”

(Previous page images of spring flowers captured on May Outing by Bob Donaldson.)

Outreach Program by Brenda Nutter, Russ Donaldson

Attention all NPC members!!!



Courtesy of the students of the Terry Fox Public School Photography Club in conjunction with the Northumberland Photography Club.

During the past year a dedicated group of NPC members has been working with over 30 grades 6, 7 and 8 pupils of the Terry Fox Public School Photography Club in Cobourg, to promote photography as a hobby. All of this is part of our "Outreach" to the community. The interest, participation and results have been outstanding! We have many budding "Karsh" prodigies in the making.

On Monday, May 31st at 7pm (sharp) the Northumberland Photography Club will host a free reception at "Meet At 66 King Street East" celebrating the start of a five- day photographic exhibition of the students' work. The show, as titled by the students, is called "DIVINE DESIGN" and will feature approximately 65 8 x 10 photographs in both black & white and colour.

We are inviting all NPC members to attend this reception in celebration of the hard work put forward by the students, their teachers/mentors, and the good folks from our club. All have worked very hard to make this project a success. Please arrive promptly for 7pm on Monday, May 31st, as we only have a one hour window of opportunity for the reception and light refreshments. **Cobourg's Town Crier will declare the exhibition officially open at 7:15pm.**



PHOTOGRAPHIC OPPORTUNITY

The Big Sisters Big Brothers present: **"GREAT GARDENS OF THE GANARASKA"**

An opportunity to tour gardens & properties, rarely accessible to photographers.

Date: Sunday, June 27th; Time: 10am – 4pm; : \$25 pp

NOTE: Mike Hick will be selling tickets at our June 7th NPC meeting

<p>Contact MIKE: 905-372-5182</p> <p>Or</p> <p>mikeandjackie@sympatico.ca</p>

Bits 'n Pieces:

Friends of Presquile Park have a very interesting and informative website. Visit: www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca

CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival

presented by: Scotiabank & the CONTACT Toronto Photography Festival

Starts: May 1, 2010 09:00 am

Ends: May 31, 2010 09:00 pm

Cost: Free. For more information contact:
Phone: 416-539-9595

CONTACT is an annual festival with over 1,000 Canadian and international artists and photographers exhibiting at more than 200 venues throughout Toronto in May. Founded as a grassroots initiative in 1996, CONTACT celebrates the art and profession of photography. Over the years the festival has fostered a thriving local community devoted to the photographic image and has grown to be the largest photography festival in the world.

Beautiful nature photography at this site: www.naturephotosbyann.blogspot.com/

Deadline June 25 CLIC Eastern Ontario Photo Show presented by the Prince Edward County Arts Council invites photographers of all ages residing in Eastern Ontario to apply for participation in the first annual show of photographic art taking place from July 31 to August 8 2010. This is a juried show. The youth division is open to students enrolled in secondary school, college and university. Complete entry information, rules and application available at www.easternontariophotoshow.com or by calling Chair, David Boorne at 613-471-1510. (Submitted by Terry Self)

Tall Ships in Toronto June 30 to July 4. For more information: <http://www.towaterfrontfest.com/>

>The Pervasive View: Vintage Prints from the National Geographic Image Collection is comprised of sets of photographic prints by over a dozen photographers associated with the Society. The exhibition will include images from Canada and from around the world and from several genres, including exploration, discovery, anthropology, aeronautics, and portraiture. Many of these images have never been published. Many have never been seen outside the National Geographic Image Collection archive, housed in Washington D.C. **Exhibition**

Dates: May 1 – June 5, 2010

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 1st, 2-5pm

Guided Tour: Saturday, May 1st, 2:30pm. Join us for a guided tour of the exhibition by Julia Andrews, Arts Development Specialist, National Geographic Image Collection.

Panel Discussion: Sunday, May 16th, 1:30-2:30pm at the Royal Ontario Museum

NPC Photo Essays – you remember, the six - image mini-slideshows, are due at the June meeting. These are intended to “tell a story” using EXACTLY six (6) slides. A seventh slide can be used on your title page if you wish.

REMINDER: The program for our last regularly scheduled meeting of the year will begin with socializing and light refreshments. The “finger foods” are being provided by the Dutch Oven. We will then proceed with a business update and the election of our new executive. We will conclude the evening with Photo Essays, Outings and Photographer’s Choice images. (Ed.’s note: Josh Hamilton, our digital technician, recommends copying slide

shows, and photo essays to a usb port or disk. If possible, try to open your program on another computer or tv. before submitting it to Josh.)

The Last Word - Larry Keeley

I felt it would be quite fitting for Russ Donaldson, our retiring vice-president, to have the "last word."



"A message to all NPC Members by Russ Donaldson"



In light of the fact that I finish my two year term as your Vice President on June 7th, I thought I would take this opportunity to thank you all for the fantastic support you have given the current NPC Executive. We have done our best to grow this club and to make it a fun yet learning organization to belong to. I congratulate all of my fellow Executive members for the effort they have put into making the NPC a success. Now it's time to pass the baton to your 2010 - 2011 team. I wish them every success and I pledge my support!

Before closing I would like to congratulate all those responsible for "The Monitor". As I see it, the Monitor's main reason for existing is to provide an outlet for members to express their needs, concerns, ideas, and whatever else they feel might be of general interest to the membership. Our club members have a wide range of photographic skills spanning all the way from professionals to duffers like me. Hopefully all of you will become **regular contributors** to our newsletter because your participation is the key to success in making the Monitor a readable newsletter with helpful information that we can all use. I encourage you to be a **regular contributor**, because I need all the photographic help I can get.

Cheers, Russ

NPC Executive

President – John Draper 905 372 5839 –

Vice President – Russ Donaldson 905 372 7044

Debara Piercey – Secretary 905 377 8077

Treasurer – Lisa Poirier 905 885 7207

Diego Fabris - Membership 905 372 0368

Audio Visual – Josh Hamilton 905 885 9945

Outings – Bob Robertson 905 372 5640

Program – Larry Keeley 905 885 9288

Out Reach – Brenda Nutter 905 372 2683

Past President – Bob Robertson 905 372 5640

Please visit our website at
www.northumberlandphoto.ca.