



The Internet Newsletter of the Hamilton Camera Club

by Johan Wigt

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Date Changes

Please take note of the following important date changes to the program.

Monday, April 3 will now be "A/V Photo Essay Night", when members will present their own Photo Essays.

and

Monday April 17 will now be "Guest speaker Juraj Dolanskji", subject TBA.

This is a direct interchange of the two programs as shown on our annual calendar brochure.

I am delighted to have received the letter below from long-time member Norm Jarvis concerning some past history and comments about judging. This is of great assistance to the Executive of your club, as they virtually always have to work in a vacuum to guess about how the individual members feel about our procedures. Your opinions count in the operation of the club, and to run the operation in a satisfactory manner it is vital that you speak up! With that, here are Norm's thoughts, for which I thank him.

Judging! It is a great "game", but not everyone wants to "play", nor does everyone always agree with the judges' evaluation or comments. Oh, we have tried one judge for each clinic and also three judges for each clinic. Back and forth, back and forth. However, did you know that back in the dark ages of the '50s (ie 1950s) when the club met at Princess Elizabeth School, the club judging was done by the members present, and various members (possibly three) were randomly called upon to give comments on the photograph. Then the members present were asked to vote as to whether the photograph was worthy of a Gold Seal, a Silver Seal, a Bronze Seal, or not worthy of these awards. "Back in the good old days"

Thanks to Juraj for his comments on Clinic #3 and allowing members to make comments or ask questions.

I think Juraj and Johan are very fair in their judging and I enjoy their comments on the photographs.

Norm Jarvis.

I thoroughly enjoyed the stimulating presentation by Joh Friedrich on February 27 entitled "Is Photography Art?". This is the sort of thrust forward that I find I confront more and more when I serve as a judge at various clubs, and the resolution of my dilemmas are not always clear.

Joh suggested a definite distinction between those that produce images that are sharp and distinct from front to back and side to side (he dubbed it the f64 club, a mantle I readily accept for myself), and those that alter the processes either in the camera or the computer programs to express a vision or perception that has sprung up in the mind of the photographer.

The f64 club has existed since the camera came along, and has formed its own group of historical themes, such as landscapes, still life, nudes, portraits, documentary, and so on, with the result that many "right" and "wrong" ways have been established themselves through the years, and although any photographer has the perfect right to ignore the guidelines (known as the rules in some circles), to do so you operate in a danger zone if it is your intention to get a good review at the next clinic.

But what of the altered process crowd? It appears to be a growing thing with the aid of the computer so readily available, and perhaps it, too, will establish its own guidelines after time passes. Maybe. Maybe not. Perhaps the "zoom during exposure" shots will be better than the "jiggies" or the "ortons" and "buzz" programs. The outcome is unknown, and perhaps it should remain so.

My personal proposal then, is this. Since I have been in photography for over 50 years, I think I can give your f64 work a reasonably fair critique, and can offer some suggestions should your image score lower than it might have done. For the altered image people, I find myself in the corner of the fine art people, who will put on juried shows where the criteria is accept or returned, but NEVER scored as to points.....no 19s and no 27s. Joh showed us any number of examples of work, and I could truly say that I found myself saying "I would hang that on my wall" to some, and blah! to others. Which suggests that maybe we make a sad mistake in numerically rating that sort of work, and should revert to the "like it", "just love it", or "can't abide it" rating system. Which bounces me back to asking a question of Joh. He started with "Is Photography Art?", and my question resolves to "If it is Art, can you put a mathematical number on it?"

Johan Wigt.

If you missed the meeting of March 6th, you lost out on one of the finest, informative, and well organized teaching sessions of the season. Spearheaded by Rick McKenzie, we were treated to a superb display of the actual construction of a digital imageshow, complete with music accompaniment. The question and answer portion nicely filled in the missing or clarifying points.

Then the grand finally. Rick had enlisted the help of four more of our members, namely Mary

Gilmour, Jim Hixon, Juraj Dolanjski, and Paul Dunnett, who brought their laptop computers along, so that five workstations were set up. The attendees split into five small groups and then assembled their own shows with images made available alongside the software we had seen demonstrated. It just proved once more that hands-on teaching is un-beatable for solid teaching efforts. The Club Executive is indeed grateful to Rick and his four compatriots for a fine effort well done !!!!

Annual Elections to the Executive May 15, 2006.

The club by-laws prescribe the procedures for the annual election of executive members, and specifically call for.....

1. The incumbent executive will establish a Nominating Committee (Section 4)
2. Nominations will be accepted 45 days prior to the date of the Annual Meeting, until 10 days prior to said meeting. That would indicate open on April 1 and close on May 5. (Obviously, nominations should have the agreement of the person being so named.)

(Section 12)

3. Nominees must have been members in good standing for at least one year.
4. All of the executive shall retire each year, but are eligible for re-election if qualified.

(Section 10 for items 3. & 4.)

CLINIC #4 was shown on Feb 13, 2006. The entries and awards are as follows.....

Prints 53 entries 12 HM Assignment "Humour"

Electronics 58 " 6 HM

Slides 11 " 0 HM

PRINTS

Photographer	Title	Award
Jim Hixon	Symmetry	26 HM Pictorial Winner and Print of the Night
Gool Tamboli	Only in Newfoundland	25 HM
John Mullenger	Blue on Blue	25 HM
Martin Renters	Graz Window 1	21 HM
" "	Rendezvous	20 HM
Eric Bosch	Swirl	21 HM
" "	Fire on the Horizon	20 HM
Mary Gilmour	Sail	25 HM Contemporary Winner

Catherine MacPherson	Flamingo portrait	22 HM
Leonie Holmes	Cecropia Moth	22 Nature Print-o-t-Night
Martin Renters	Autumn	20 HM
Rob Thorne	Mommy	25 HM Assignment Winner
Eric Bosch	Surprise Attack	20 HM

ELECTRONIC IMAGES

Photographer	Title	Award
John Mullenger	Frosted	25 HM Contemp.Winner& Electronic Image-o-t-Night
Sadie Dallas	And the Farmer Said	23 HM Assignment Winner
" "	Free Kisses	22 HM
Ron Chalecki	March Squall	23 Tied for Pictorial Image of the Night with
Jim Hixon	Passion Flower 5	23 Tied with above
Mary Gilmour	Cormorants at Sunset	21 Nature Image-o-t-Night

SLIDES

Ron Chalecki	Spring Haven	21 Slide of the Night
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That's it for now. Don't forget our Annual Meeting on May 15 at the Mandarin in Burlington. We are going back in time with this event in that it will be a dinner meeting, as it used to be, with your significant other as well as the usual reports, elections, and the Year End Awards. Tickets are already available, and early purchase on your part is suggested so that we can set up the room appropriately, the sooner we know a potential attendance number, the better.

If you are going to take a run at the Awards, you must present your entries by the general meeting of March 27. These have to be entries that have run the gauntlet at one of the regular clinics this season. These will be judged again by a different panel, giving an opportunity for a second opinion. I don't believe it to be an easy task for the judges, as I would like to think that you will enter your finest work.

I'm out of "stuff!"

Till next time,

Johan