



The Internet Newsletter of the Hamilton Camera Club

by Johan Wigt

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At a Crossroad

It appears that our club has once again arrived at a crossroad that implies potential change, or, at the very least, consideration about how we operate in regards to our Clinics. We conduct 5 of these events each season, and they are highly popular because they teach, show, and entertain all at the same time. This would imply that "if it ain't broke, don't fix it", but it has become so very popular that the very exercise is starting to self-defeat!

The input level at which we have operated over the last year or two has risen steadily, and runs somewhere between 120 and 150 pieces of work to deal with each time, and that is a killer. It's OK for the observers, but it slays the judges, as the volume along with the need to write up individual comments takes far too many hours of their personal time, hence there is great resistance to taking the job on; I have personally spoken to at least 3 who I know personally, each of whom did a great job for us in the past, that will no longer come. This past season we only had 2 out of 5 come to our meeting to do the commentary.

So now we arrive at the question of what course we should take in the future. Your executive has wrestled with this problem on a number of occasions this season, and pondered several avenues open to us.

- a). Remove undue load from the judges by having a group of our own people write up the comments and report them to the club.
- b). Limit the input volume to a workable number (perhaps 80 or so entries total)
- c). Limit the input by permitting a maximum of 4 entries per person across all categories, rather than 4 in each of several categories.
- d). Provide comments automatically only to junior and intermediate categories, and permit seniors and masters to request comments on one entry only.
- e). Return to a 3 judge system very similar to the Trillium method, whereby the judges simply score and comments at a gathering between club nights and recorded by the committee responsible, with the scores and comments brought back to the membership by the committee on clinic night.

Needless to say, these are not the only possibilities open to us, nor is it the Executive's responsibility to decide these things alone, but rather to start discussion among our general membership with a view to arriving at a thrust that is acceptable to all of us. We may even have to go into a period of experimentation with different approaches or pursue study with other clubs to see how they deal with this. So please put on

your thinking caps and talk about this; it is important that you do so.

Proposed Changes to the Digital Rules

You will recall that at the December meeting John Mullenger, as Chairman of a subcommittee to study our Digital Rules instituted in 1997, reported on proposed changes to the Digital Rules to reflect the changed usage of the computer technology in the photography aspects as they stand today. These changes are to be voted upon by our membership at our Annual General Meeting on May 13, 2002. The proposals are repeated here.

1) A slide or print which has been altered using the same methods as done in a darkroom i.e., burning, dodging, cropping, etc. should be able to be entered in the regular categories i.e., Pictorial, Nature, Contemporary, etc.

2) A digital image is one that cannot be altered using Darkroom methods i.e., using certain filters, masking and distortions etc. These images should be entered in the Digital category.

3) All images entered into the Hamilton Camera Club's clinics must have been taken with a camera in whole or part. Images created entirely by computer i. e., Bryce etc. cannot be entered into the club's clinics.

Editor's Comment; please note that the reference in clause #3 to a camera is significant in that CAPA as well as the GTCCC demand this, as the rationale says that using a camera means that you are working with light, lenses, shutters, film sensitivity, and these are a basic and integral feature of photography and have been so since day #1 when Fox-Talbot in 1837 and Daguerre in 1839 took the world's first photographs.

Clinic #5 Results

Clinic #5 was shown on April 1, 2002. Our judge was Ms. Janet Kempster, an art teacher by profession.

Self-Made Prints

Ernie Sulcs

Summer Song - Colour Print of the Night, 26 points

Taste of Riga, 25 points

Johan Wigt

The Wood Nymph - Mono Print of the Night, 26 points

Don Wood

Museum of Steam & Technology - Assignment Winner 20 points

Sol Algranti

W.C.Men, 23 points

Leonie Holmes

Little Sisters, 25 points

Tom Watson

Winter, 23 points

Andrew Achmann

Fish Nets, 23 points

Commercial Prints

Jim Alton

Johan Wigt, The Wood Nymph



Ernie Sulcs, Summer Song



Impala Buck - Commercial Print of the Night, 25 points
Great Blue Heron, 22 points

T.J.Robertson
Robert, 24 points

Sadie Dallas
Gaspé Sunset, 21 points

Pesi Tamboli
Teahouse in the Evening - Assignment Winner, 20 points

Digital Prints

Leonie Holmes
Trees #2 - Digital Print of the Night 26

T.J.Robertson
Amaryliss, 22 points
Old and New, 24 points
Adam, 24 points

Pesi Tamboli
The Farm, 24 points

Sol Algranti
Lineup at the Bakery, 22 points

Slides

Ron Chalecki
Urban Turbulance - Assignment Winner, 28 points
Capricious Dream, 26 points

Leonie Holmes
Monarch Emerging #3 - Slide of the Night, 28 points
Bale of Hay - Digital Slide of the Night, 28 points

Lawrence Yanover
Clown #2, 27 points
Cathedral, 25 points

John Mullenger
Low Mist, 25 points

Don Wood, Museum of Steam & Technology



Jim Alton, Impala Buck



Pesi Tamboli, Teahouse in the Evening



Colourful Dancer, 25 points

Leonie Holmes, Trees #2



Bronze Box



The Bronze Box

Held on April 15, 2002 and hosted by The Hamilton Camera Club in our annual duel with The Don Mills Camera Club was a great success as usual. We saw some marvelous images, and enjoyed a great social time complete with a superb luncheon organized by Eva Szarka. Oh, and outgoing President John Nigro paid out the usual \$2.00 fine for "losing" out to our visiting friends.

As to our scores.....

Category	Don Mills	Hamilton
Mono Prints	178 points	175 points
Colour Prints	158 points	162 points
Slides	445 points	438 points
Totals	781 points	775 points
Average (35 pieces)	22.31	22.14

Till another time.....

Johan.