

# The Bellows

*The Newsletter of the Hamilton Camera Club*

## Where does the time go?

*From Eric Bosch, Bellows Editor*

It seems like only yesterday that I was enjoying the company of fellow HCC members at Mother Tuckers and the year-end banquet. But that was May and here we are well into October, and a new season at the HCC.

This year's Open House was great! It was stimulating to see and hear what fellow members have been up to over the summer break. The number of new faces (and now new members) was overwhelming, adding yet more depth and breadth of experience and knowledge to the club. I was also thrilled to see how many members took up my

summer challenge and created panoramic images, in fact, stunning panoramic images.

If you have an article or idea that you'd like to see published in The Bellows, please speak to me at any of the meetings or contact me via email at [doteric@mac.com](mailto:doteric@mac.com). I am also happy to include listings of any items that you have for sale, or are looking to purchase (photography related, of course).

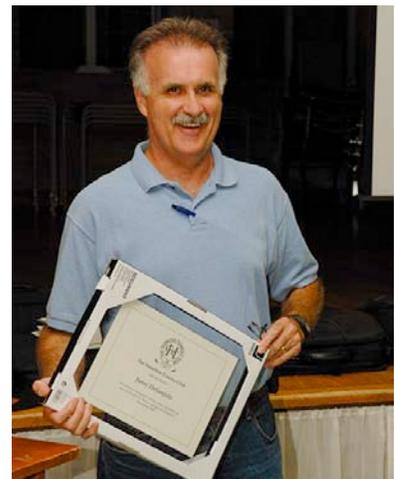
Please do not hesitate to share your suggestions and ideas with any member of the executive. It is primarily your feedback that shapes the club. Here's to another rewarding year!

## Juraj Dolanski receives Lifetime membership

The HCC has been the beneficiary of years of contribution by past and present member Juraj Dolanski.

Juraj has enhanced the club over many years with his efforts as past president, judge, and frequent speaker. Juraj is always ready to contribute to the HCC when the need or opportunity arises. He recently volunteered to host regular digital interest group meetings to supplement the club's regular meetings. Juraj is also a 7 star (if memory serves) master, demonstrating his photographic excellence with award-winning photos.

It was the honor of the HCC to present Juraj with a lifetime membership at the recent Open House meeting. Thank you for your efforts Juraj!





*Burlington Skyway  
Bridge Panorama,  
Eric Bosch*

## What's New in Clinics for 2007/8?

Based upon feedback from members during the 2006/7 season, the executive has made some refinements to the clinic rules.

Overwhelmingly, members expressed strong interest in having more time during judging to receive specific feedback regarding their images. At the same time, members (and judges) would like meeting nights to not extend past 10pm. The chosen solution is to leave the maximum number of clinic images per member at 6 but cap the entire clinic at 100 images.

### NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER MEMBER

The maximum number of entries permitted per member per clinic remains at 6 (4 plus 2 assignment images). However this year, there is no sub-limit of 3 images for each of the print and projected divisions. Members may submit 6 print images or 6 projected images or any combination in the two divisions, up to a combined maximum of 6. At least 2 of the images must be in the assignment category, otherwise only 4 images may be entered per clinic.

### NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER CLINIC

Notwithstanding the maximum of 6 images per member, there is a new overall limit of "approximately" 100 images per clinic. If there are substantially more than 100 images submitted for a clinic, then those images which submitters have ranked the lowest will be withdrawn from judging, but they may be re-submitted for judging at a future clinic.

By way of simple example, if 50 members each submit 3 clinic images, the total number of images will be 150, well above the limit. All images ranked 3 will be withdrawn from judging, bringing the total down to 100. On the other hand, if 30 members each submit 3 images, the total is already below the limit and no images will be withdrawn. Finally, if 55

members each submit 2 images, withdrawing the 2<sup>nd</sup> image would reduce the total to 55, too low a number, and so the 2<sup>nd</sup> image would be included, giving a total of 110, or "approximately" 100.

### CLINIC ENTRY FORM

To accommodate these changes, a revised clinic entry form has been created – an Excel and printable version are available on the website. After completion, the Excel version can be emailed to Jim Hixon or the printed version can be submitted at the clinic.

Remember to rank images with the clinic maximum in mind. In particular, your assignment images should be in the first and second choice positions.

### IMAGE IDENTIFICATION

There is no longer a form to attach to the back of prints. Instead, prints and slides must be identified with the name of the maker, the title (this must be identical to the title on the clinic entry form), and an arrow indicating the up orientation.

### NUMBER OF CLINICS

This year there will again be 6 clinics, 5 regular clinics and one special clinic at the end of the season. For the regular clinics, images may be submitted in each of the nature, pictorial, contemporary, and assignment categories.

The special clinic is for images in the photojournalism category only. Broadly speaking, these as-shot images document an event and are submitted without alteration. Specific requirements for the category can be found on the website. All submitted images, up to the maximum of 6 per member, must be in this category.

*Comments, items for sale, and (ideas for) future articles should be forwarded to the editor, Eric Bosch, doteric@mac.com.*

## For Sale

HCC member Paul Roth has the following items for sale. Please contact Paul via email [eyeman@cogeco.ca](mailto:eyeman@cogeco.ca) or speak to him at a club meeting.

Nikon D2x - \$2200

Nikon 17-55mm f/2.8 DX lens - \$1000

Prices are negotiable.

See us on the web at:

[www.hamiltoncameraclub.com](http://www.hamiltoncameraclub.com)

## RAW mode and Histograms

Many photographers have discovered the benefits of shooting in RAW mode, having the original sensor data available which they can manipulate freely with their favorite RAW converters (akin to playing with a film negative in the darkroom).

Even with the wide ranging ability to “fix” mistakes made during exposure, the old adage of getting it right in camera still applies in RAW mode. Let me give you an example that “highlights” this need.

Setting a proper white balance (or color temperature) is something that RAW shooters frequently leave for fixing during post-processing. This is great and almost every RAW converter can be tweaked to get the colors right. However, interpreting the back of camera histogram while shooting with an incorrect color balance will often be very misleading.

The exposure histogram that your camera displays is calculated not from the RAW sensor data but from a JPEG created on the fly using the camera’s current settings, including white balance. If you regularly use your histogram to adjust the exposure and then re-shoot, and your white balance is wrong, your interpretation of the scene based upon the histogram will also be wrong. Why?

Imagine that you are shooting in a room lit only by incandescent bulbs yet your white balance is set to daylight. Your image will be very yellow and your histogram will show this – the red and green channels will contain higher peaks than the blue channel (or they might be shifted more to the right). In fact, these channels may even clip, giving you the dreaded blinking highlights. With the blinkies, you might decide to reduce your exposure to get rid of them – accckkk, this will likely lead to an overall image underexposure! With the white balance set correctly for incandescent, and no exposure adjustment, those channels will not be as biased and there very well may be no blinking highlights – it’s possible that even an exposure increase is called for! If you’re still not convinced, watch the histogram for your image change as you change the white balance in a RAW converter like Adobe Camera Raw.

Using the histogram to make exposure decisions with incorrect camera settings, even in RAW mode, is problematic. It is always better to have the settings right at the time of exposure. And although white balance is the most obvious example, the same is also true for settings like contrast, saturation, and tone.

## Rob Kennedy and Jean-Francois O’Kane

The HCC presentations this year have started with a bang.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> guest speaker was Rob Kennedy, who gave a terrific presentation entitled “Creating in the Field”.



Rob organizes photography workshops in Ontario. The schedule can be found at [www.robkennedyphotos.com](http://www.robkennedyphotos.com).



Our 2<sup>nd</sup> guest speaker was Jean-Francois O’Kane. Jean-Francois gave a terrific primer on digital photography and portraiture lighting. I don’t think that anyone will forget what a histogram is after seeing Jean-Francois’ very visual and simple example.

Jean-Francois can be found on the web at [www.thestudiocoach.com](http://www.thestudiocoach.com).

The HCC thanks Booth Photographic Limited, [www.boothphoto.com](http://www.boothphoto.com), for sponsoring Jean-Francois’ presentation.