



IN FOCUS

WWW.NIAGARAFALLSCAMERACLUB.ORG

SEPTEMBER 2019
VOLUME 28 ISSUE 02

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jon Reaves, in a recent article in Photo Life, writes of the benefits of revisiting familiar locations and subjects again and again. It will result in a deeper understanding of your subject and eventually lead to the capture of your subject in the best conditions possible. Niagarans are fortunate to live in an area where there is an abundance of natural beauty to photograph. The tourist does not always have the luxury of catching favourable lighting conditions at their chosen destination. Living as I do less than ten minutes to one of the wonders of the natural world, a little persistence will no doubt eventually result in excellence.

It's with these thoughts in mind that I prepare to finish up this year's Summer Inspiration Challenge. I've photographed one of the locations, Brock's Monument, many times over the years. I will be heading out there this week to find a fresh perspective on this familiar landmark. Just a few more days to the deadline for the challenge- don't worry if you haven't covered all the locations, send in what you have. It's always interesting to see all of the different ways members interpret the subjects.

I've got my ticket for this year's Fall Seminar- do you have yours? Don't miss this opportunity to



spend the day with much sought-after presenter Don Komarechka at Club Italia on Saturday, November 9 for "Vision Beyond Seeing". Tickets for Sunday's workshop are sold out. Register online at nfrcc.org or see Social Chair Michelle Stranges at one of our October meetings.

The Niagara Falls Camera Club will have another chance to give back to our community on Saturday, November 30 as we take part in the Help Portrait event. Help Portrait is a global movement that aims to enable photographers to give back to their community by giving people who otherwise couldn't afford portraits a chance to capture memories. We'll be at the same location as last year, St. Andrews United Church on Morrison St. in the Falls. This will be

a good opportunity for those who would like experience in portrait photography. Studio setups will be available along with guidance from our members who are more experienced in this area. Help is also needed in posing our subjects as well as managing people at the door and at a later date, framing the pictures.

The annual competition between the NFRCC and the OCCC is being hosted by the OCCC this year. It's happening at the Stoney Creek Lions Club, 14 Sherwood Park Rd. Stoney Creek, Ontario. The entrance fee of \$15 includes admission to the competition, lunch, and keynote speaker David Chapman who will present his program "Super Storms of Ontario". Saturday, Nov. 23, 10-5pm.

Just a reminder we will not be meeting at the library on Monday, Oct. 7, due to the field trip to Doug Hansgate's studio in Tonawanda. The next regular meeting in the Lamarsh Room will be the October competition on Monday, October 28. I will be away for the first two weeks in October, hoping to catch some fall colour on the East Coast.
Happy Shooting...

~Karen Fulham

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

SUMMER CHALLENGE

LAST CALL, OPEN TO ALL

- Photograph each of the 6 subjects by September 30th.
- Size them to 1920 pixels (wide) x 1080 pixels (tall).
- Save your images as JPGs, sRGB color space.
- Please name your files with the subject number and your name.
Example “4 Chris Empey”
- Email those 6 images to CEMPEY@NIAGARAFALLSCAMERACLUB.ORG no later than Midnight, September 30th.
- All the submissions will then be compiled into a slideshow and will be shown at the Christmas Potluck meeting of the Niagara Falls Camera Club, December 16, 2019 and will then be posted to YouTube and our website for online viewing.
- Submissions are open to everyone, not only camera club members

~ *Chris Empey and Scott Simons*

1
2

FLOWERS

COMPOSITE
IMAGE

3
4

PHOTO
FROM
OUTINGS

IN THE
FOREST

5
6

BROCK'S
MONUMENT

MCBAIN
CENTER
SKATE
PARK

Photograph a flower (or flowers) outside away from your home.

We would like to see your creativity and a little bit of Photoshop skill with this challenge. You will need to come up with an idea, photograph at least two different images and then combine them into a composite, final image. All parts of this photograph must be shot after the start of the challenge.

We want to see a photo from one of the many NFCC outings. Be sure to watch our Facebook page for notice of the outings.

Forests have a wonderful charm to them. The way the light filters through the canopy, plants that require the shade the trees provide, and mossy rocks that you won't find in the sun. Show us your forest photo!

Show us a photo that includes Brock's Monument. Be creative.

Not your normal park, this park is concrete and metal, with curves, hills and graffiti. Show off your photography from this location.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE

THE NEWSLETTER

Shree Jetha

Members and Friends of NFCC, it is heart warming to receive such wonderful encouraging feedback for our first newsletter, this new club season. I am enjoying my new role as your Newsletter Editor/Chairperson, and I will do my best to keep our issues grand-looking and professional and interesting and interactive; while being extremely informative! But I need a little help from you...

I NEED YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS:

1. OUTINGS AND EVENTS

For those who attend outings and events where NFCC members are present, and would like to show their pictures in the newsletter, please send them to me by the 25th of the month. You will receive photo credits for your share and it will be published on the Facebook group which is steadily approaching 500 followers.

2. MEMBERS' GALLERY

This is a new segment for the next issue, and I invite you to send in your favorite pictures to be showcased in Members' Gallery. Let's start with 2 pictures per member, with their titles and location information. Please send as sRGB jpgs.

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

All club members are invited to send in their biographies to feature in our monthly newsletters. We will showcase 2-3 members every month. So far, the response has been outstanding, and the order of publication will be in the order received in. If you would like to share your story, please EMAIL as soon as possible to secure your spot for November, as our October Issue has filled up already!

HOUSE COMMITTEE

Paula Cutler-Chiasson

Refreshments are provided at every meeting, free to our members. If you would like to contribute a snack, cookies, cake etc, please contact Paula to sign up for this photographic year.

NFCC extends our thanks to members, past and present, who have provided yummy goodies for all to enjoy.

THE TREASURER

Chris Empey

Welcome back to the club, Everyone. I would like to thank all that have paid their membership dues and remind those, who have not, that I will be collecting dues at our next competition meeting, October 28th.

If you have not received the annual NFCC program guide, please be sure to collect yours at the next meeting.

CLUB OUTINGS

GRAFFITI ART AND STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

SATURDAY
OCTOBER 19th
8am-3pm

GRAFFITI ALLEY PHOTO SHOOT
TORONTO'S 1KM STRETCH OF FREESTYLE ART
SOUTH OF QUEEN STREET FROM SPADINA TO PORTLAND



RSVP

A massive thank you to all in attendance at the Niagara Butterfly Conservatory Outing on September 21st. It was a great opportunity to practice some Macro Photography, while the graceful butterflies were true starlets of the day!

Our next club outing is detailed to the left. At the request of a few club members who were inspired by the talk given by guest speaker, Andy Glavac, where his love for graffiti art and street photography rubbed off that night, we are going out for some candid pictures at Graffiti Alley in Toronto. Your RSVP to this event is a must, as carpooling is involved.

Thank you for your continued support.

Shree Jetha

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO?

Part of serving you better, is listening to your suggestions and feedback. Please contact [Shree](#) if you have a great locale in mind for the club to enjoy.

Be There Or Be Square

DRINKS AT
CLANCY'S
RESTAURANT
AND SPORTS BAR

5233 Stanley Avenue
(Corner of Valley Way)
Niagara Falls, Ontario

MEET-UP IS SCHEDULED
STRAIGHT AFTER EVERY
CLUB MEETING.



CLUB OUTINGS

NIAGARA BUTTERFLY CONSERVATORY



Photo Credit:
Lorne Tontegode, Karen Fulham

CLUB OUTINGS

NIAGARA BUTTERFLY CONSERVATORY

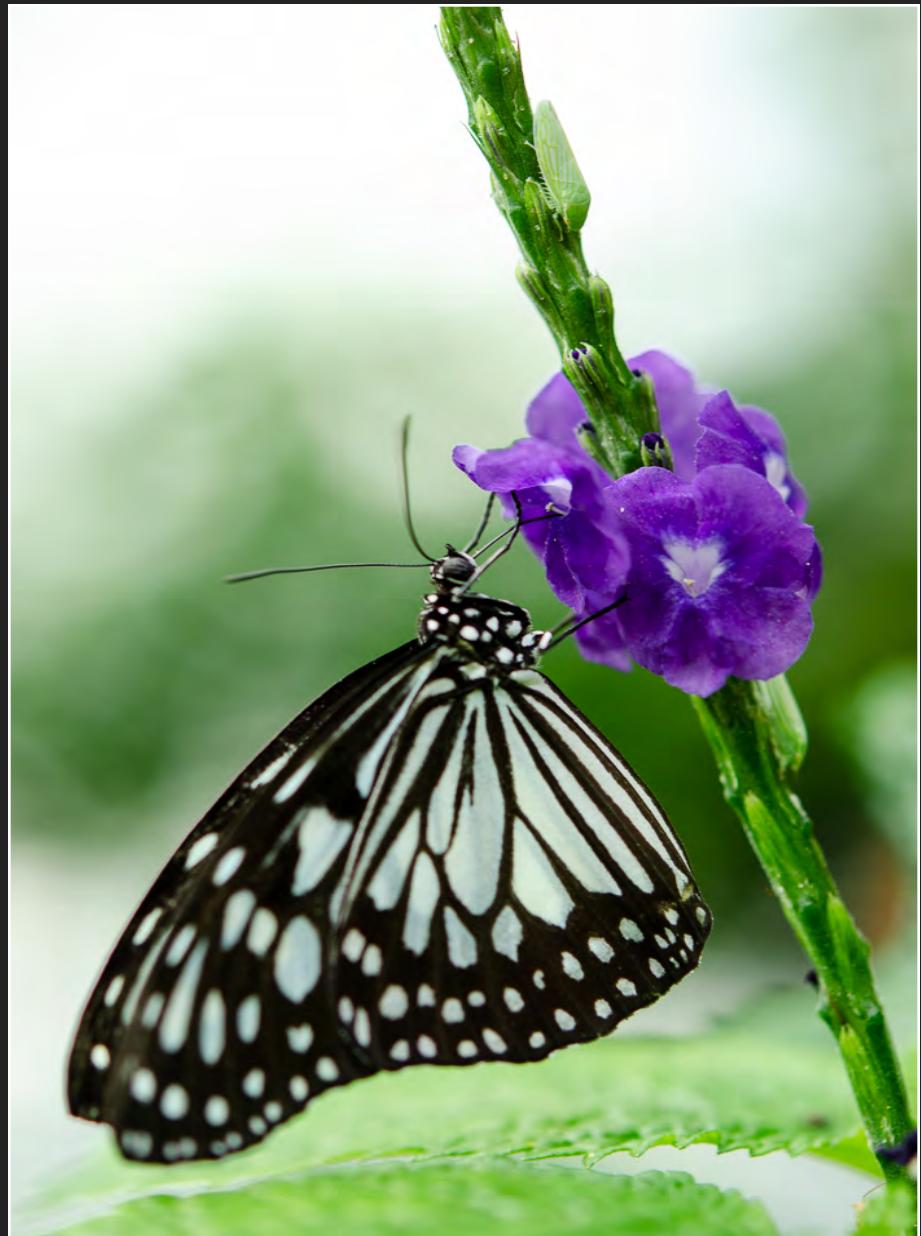


Photo Credit: Michelle Stranges



Photo Credit: Lorne Tontegode



Photo Credit: Karen Fulham

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES



Born and raised in Niagara Falls Ontario, Michelle Stranges' photographic journey began as a young child when her family would gather around with popcorn on Saturday evenings, for 'Slide Night'. Her father would hook up the projector and screen, to show the family all the slides that told tales of their many adventures together. "I was captivated by the wonderfully saturated colors of slide film, and must have inherited that desire, from him, to capture images to tell my stories," she shared.

Michelle has been documenting her life through photos since her early teens but purchased her first "real" camera, a Minolta F9, in the early 80's. Her love for film photography inspired her to acquire her certification from Niagara College, in 2005. "I even had my own dark room for a few years and was very reluctant to give up film; but once I tried digital, there was no turning back!" proclaims Michelle.

Michelle Stranges

Her photographic style has been primarily documentary, until 2005, when she attended a workshop, with Freeman Patterson. She now started exploring the possibility of a more artistic aspect to her photography.

Though Michelle is undecided as to which genre of photography she likes to shoot best, and she will keep shooting until she figures it out. "I know I have a long way to go but I have learned so much, and have been so inspired by the talented photographers at the Niagara Falls Camera Club, that I wish I had joined much sooner. It is a wonderful community and I look forward to all the programs, outings and events in the years to come."



SOUTH AFRICAN QUIVER TREE



WILD HORSE OF GLEN CANYON, ARIZONA, USA



LEANING TOWER OF PISA, ITALY

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES



Scott Simons



At an early age, Scott Simons, discovered his love-interest for Photography. His first camera was a humble Kodak Brownie, bought at a flea market for his Sixth Grade trip to Ottawa. He later upgraded to a pocket camera (110 film), and started taking black and white pictures. One of which, was of his Grandfather, seated on the porch of their rented cottage. This would be the picture that Scott calls 'The Game Changer.'

Once he moved onto middle school, where he took a photography elective, and learnt more about the darkroom. Scott printed that picture of his grandfather whom passed away shortly after it was taken, and presented it to his Grandmother. She cried. It was in this moment, Simons discovered the Power Of Photography. Encouraged by this, Scott got his first SLR camera. Later he procured a used Pentax, with the money he made dressed up as Frankenstein on Clifton Hill.

"I had lots of downtime. I read every photo publication I could get my hands on," says Simons. There was a segment every month by John Shaw on Nature Photography, and one article that magnetized him most, was on dragonflies. "When I saw his picture, I thought to myself, this is something I would like to do!"

In 1983, Scott met Frank Goulding at his new job with Niagara Falls Hydro. He was a longtime member of NFCC and invited Scott to attend a club meeting. Scott joined the club that September and never looked back. A year later, he became part of NFCC's Executive Slide Committee, where he currently serves, 36 years ongoing!

He became friends with a fellow club member, John Daly, and the duo would go out shooting every Sunday, for many years. Eventually, Chris Empey, joined NFCC, and they became fast-friends, too; they continue that tradition of Sunday Photo Shoots, all year round.

The club has been a great place to learn from and meet people that have similar interests. Scott said, "I still believe NFCC should be a photography club with a bit of software training, as opposed to a software club, based on photography. You get out of it, what you put into it. If you don't socialize or talk and meet people at meetings, you won't find a shooting buddy, mentor, confidant or best friend like I have."

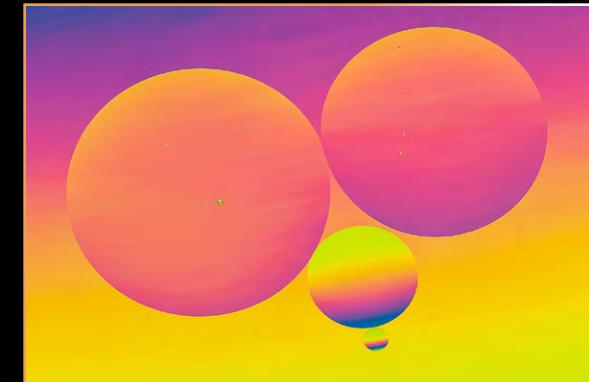
Other than the two Johns mentioned earlier, Scott draws his inspiration and ideas from just about everyone, especially the new people at the camera club. "They show up with different views of the world than our regular seasoned club veterans," he explained. "I like that."

NFCC monthly competitions are enjoyable to Scott, and it is where he continues to learn. He jokingly said that he doesn't necessarily agree with every judge but that's life! Simons enjoys the club's newest tradition of going to Clancy's Sports Bar after every meeting, and feels that it has helped to make NFCC a stronger, more social club.

Scott shared that seeing the speakers at the Fall Seminars and CanAm conventions usually gets him pumped, full of ideas. Instead of idolizing the speakers, once you talk to them, you realize they are just like you and me with really cool dream jobs.



SADDLEBAGS



OIL ON WATER



NIAGARA FALLS

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES



Like many photographers, Paula Cutler-Chiasson, started out early. She was only 11 years old when she received her first camera, a point and shoot for Christmas. She enjoyed taking pictures of friends and family. By the time she turned 17, Paula upgraded her camera to a Canon Sure Shot for about \$400. She confessed that at the time, that was a lot of money for a young teenager. Her love affair with photography continued to blossom. Amused, she said, "I have thousands of photos to prove it!"

By December 2012, she saw an advertisement on Facebook for free photography tips. Right away it piqued her interest. But secretly, Paula had always wished her photographs were good enough to put up on her wall, but she felt they were missing something. This ad on Facebook,

Paula Cutler-Chiasson

was the opportunity for her to improve those skills. "I was so excited. One of the first tips learned, stated, 'If you want to improve your photography skills, then you have to take photos everyday, if possible.'" This is when Paula was introduced to the 52 Week Challenge; where you take one photo every week on a specific topic. "It makes you think outside of the box," declared Chiasson. She chose Water as her theme, and made a photo folder for it on Facebook to hold her accountable. "That was the start for me. It wasn't long and I was hooked. I couldn't get enough," exclaimed the budding photographer.

So now, as much as she loved taking photographs, Paula kept wishing she had friends with the same interests as hers, and that is when she found out about the Niagara Falls Camera Club. First, dropping in as a guest to check things out. "I remember feeling nervous and shy when Chris Empey came up to me, and he immediately made me feel welcome," she says. Shortly

after, Chiasson joined the club. "I think I have learned something from every member at NFCC. The talent, support and friendships I've gained are second to none! I've had opportunities to do things I would probably have never done on my own; like the Steelwool Spinning Outing this summer and the Waterdrop Presentation led by Scott Simons, or the Ink in Water by Piroska (Pearl) Bacso." Paula said.

She has traveled to many places like Letchworth, Haliburton to photograph wolves, and Algonquin for the moose, all because of the friendships she had made at the camera club. She believes the local outings, social opportunities and the NFCC's community projects, has not only brought the members closer but has extended friendships to other photo clubs, as well. Paula continued, "NFCC feels like home, my second family. We may not always agree or want the same things, but everyone is treated with respect, we provide encouragement, friendship and support to each other. I feel honored to be part of such a wonderful group of people."



LOW POINT, NOVA SCOTIA



HIDDEN BEAUTY, OAKS GARDEN

ROSBERG ROOM EXHIBITION



Some photographers at the club exhibited their work at the Rosberg Room, Niagara Falls Library; the gallery will be showing for all of September. Stop by in support and sign the Guestbook, if you like.

Photo Credit: Karen Fulham and Shiree Jetha

COMPETITION RESULTS - DIGITAL

BRONZE

ENTRIES HONOR TOTAL

RICHARD GRANT	2	2	29
LISA KELLEY	2	1	25
SIMONE GOMES	2	1	23
GEOFFREY WATERS	2	1	22

SILVER

ENTRIES HONOR TOTAL

RON PLANCHE	2	-	20
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GOLD

ENTRIES HONOR TOTAL

SHIREE JETHA	2	2	33
CURTIS CAPUANO	2	2	32
LIZ MASSE	2	2	32
PAULA CUTLER-CHIASSON	2	1	32
CAROL DOBRINDT	2	1	27
LORRAINE PICHETTE	2	1	27
MICHELLE STRANGES	2	-	23
DOUG BANAS	2	-	21

DIAMOND

ENTRIES HONOR TOTAL

SCOTT SIMONS	2	2	34
PEARL BACSO	2	2	32
CHRIS EMPEY	2	1	31
NORA MATHEWSON	2	1	28
LARRY MATHEWSON	2	-	22

COMPETITION RESULTS - PRINTS

COLOR

BRONZE

	ENTRIES	HONORS	TOTAL
LIZ MASSE	2	2	31
LISA KELLEY	2	2	28

SILVER

	ENTRIES	HONORS	TOTAL
CAROL DOBRINDT	2	2	32
RON PLANCHE	2	2	31

GOLD

	ENTRIES	HONORS	TOTAL
SHIREE JETHA	2	1	28

DIAMOND

	ENTRIES	HONORS	TOTAL
NORA MATHEWSON	2	1	30
KAREN FULHAM	2	1	29
LARRY MATHEWSON	2	1	28
LORRAINE PICHETTE	2	2	22

BLACK AND WHITE

BRONZE

	ENTRIES	HONORS	TOTAL
LISA KELLEY	2	2	28

SILVER

	ENTRIES	HONORS	TOTAL
RON PLANCHE	2	2	32
CAROL DOBRINDT	2	1	28

GOLD

	ENTRIES	HONORS	TOTAL
SHIREE JETHA	2	2	36

DIAMOND

	ENTRIES	HONORS	TOTAL
NORA MATHEWSON	2	1	29
LARRY MATHEWSON	2	-	24
LORRAINE PICHETTE	2	-	21

FALL SEMINAR

VISION BEYOND SEEING WITH DON KOMARECHKA

**BOOK BEFORE
OCTOBER 26TH
AND SAVE**

CAD \$65.00 +HST

(Inclusive of Seminar and Lunch)

**NOVEMBER 9TH
9AM – 3:30PM**

CLUB ITALIA
2525 MONTROSE ROAD
NIAGARA FALLS, ON

This photography seminar aims to weave science and art together, and help photographers understand the limitations of both, our camera and our own vision, and then to step beyond those limits.



Don Komarechka is a nature, macro photographer who's photographic adventures reveal a deeper understanding of how the universe works. Exploring the world that we cannot see with our own eyes has been a common thread in Don's career as a professional photographer. Always science-minded but never formally trained, Don uses photography as a way to explore and understand the world around him. Photographing something unusual or unknown is the perfect excuse to learn something new. Don's work often pushes up against the technical limitations of modern camera equipment and the physical limitations of light itself.

Panasonic

REGISTER NOW

FOR BOTH DAYS: www.nfrcc.org

FOR SATURDAY ONLY: www.nfrcc.org OR

Fill out the registration form below and send by mail to:
Michelle Stranges, 9920 Willoughby Drive, Niagara Falls, On, L2G 0X1
Make cheques payable to NFRCC

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Camera Club Affiliation: _____



VISION BEYOND SEEING SEMINAR WITH DON KOMARECHKA

www.nfrcc.org



Vision Beyond Seeing is a photography seminar that aims to weave science and art together and help photographers of every skill level understand the limitations of both our cameras and our own vision, and then step beyond those limits.

Panasonic

TAMRON
New eyes for industry

PHOTO

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Hahnenmühle
BREAD MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

VANGUARD

Cactus

NOVEMBER 9, 2019

9:00 AM- 3:30 PM
Registration begins 8:00 AM

CLUB ITALIA
2525 Montrose Road,
Niagara Falls, Ontario

\$65 CDN+HST before October 26
After October 26: \$90 CDN + HST
Cancellation fees apply as per NFRCC policies
Price Includes Seminar and Lunch

**REGISTER ONLINE
OR PLEASE CONTACT**

[GO TO WEBSITE](#)

MICHELLE STRANGES BY [EMAIL](#)

PROJECT HELP-PORTRAIT

Help-Portrait is an international organization with a simple mission - "Find someone in need, take their picture, print their picture and deliver their picture." We are proud to say Niagara Falls Camera Club IS part of this movement.

On November 30th, we will be getting together with families in need from Niagara Falls, and we will be taking their family and individual portraits. We will get them printed and delivered to them in time for Christmas. We also hope to have enough money to supply them with their own photo digital files, on memory sticks. We are expecting to photograph approximately 65 families.

The memories we are creating for these families will surely make a difference in their lives, and the warm smiles that we as photographers receive, will also make a difference in ours.

We need your help, as an event like this takes a lot of people to make it a success. Please reach out to the key organizers, Scott Simons and Chris Empey if you are able to volunteer some your time, your photographic skills (of any level), or to make a donation.

Seen here are last year's NFCC Volunteers, fulfilling Help-Portrait's Mission Statement.

Photo Credit: Karen Fulham



SIGN UP

VOLUNTEER
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE



AVAILABLE POSITIONS

- PHOTOGRAPHERS
- WELCOME COMMITTEE
- FOOD & BEVERAGE COMMITTEE
- PROPS SET-UP & BREAK DOWN
- FRAMING & PACKAGING

MEMBERSHIP DUES
2019-2020
\$45

PAYABLE TO
NIAGARA FALLS CAMERA CLUB
CHEQUE OR CASH
PLEASE SEE CHRIS EMPEY



MEMBERSHIP ENTITLES YOU TO:

- Attend all regular NFCC meetings and workshops
- Participate in monthly competitions in which Digital Images and Prints are evaluated and awarded, suggestions for improvement are provided
- Attend regular meetings of any of the other camera clubs comprising the Niagara Frontier Regional Camera Clubs.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2019-2020

President KAREN FULHAM	Prints Competition Chairperson LORRAINE PICHETTE	Publicity Chairpeople CHRIS EMPEY, BILL FEDER
Secretary SHARON MURRAY	Digital Competition Chairperson LARRY MATHEWSON	House Committee PAULA CUTLER-CHIASSON
Treasurer CHRIS EMPEY	Social Chairperson MICHELLE STRANGES	Newsletter Chairperson SHIREE JETHA
Program Chairperson SCOTT SIMONS	Outings Chairperson SHIREE JETHA	Webmaster CHRIS EMPEY

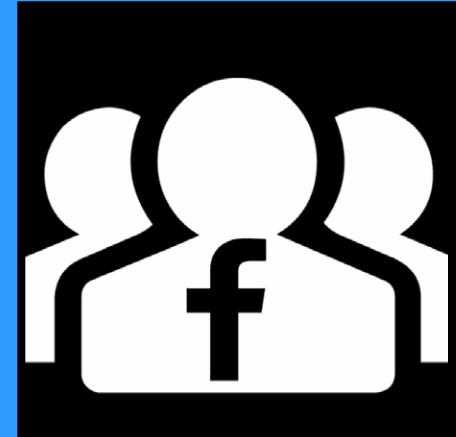
MISSED AN ISSUE OF IN FOCUS?

Read All About It
In The Archives

September 2019
Special Edition



IN FOCUS
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