



IN FOCUS

WWW.NIAGARAFALLSCAMERACLUB.ORG

OCTOBER 2019

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 03

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month I was fortunate enough to be able to carve out some time for a fall road trip to the East Coast. Although my timing was off about a week for peak colour on the Cabot Trail, nevertheless I was able to take full advantage of autumn's mellow light when I revisited some familiar locations, seeing them with fresh eyes. Nova Scotia is a wonderful place to be in the summer, but I sometimes struggle with summer's strong "contrasty" light in my landscape shots. It made me realize that fall is just about the best time of year for outdoor photography! There's still some fall colour here to be seen in Niagara, get out and capture it before it's gone.

There's also still time to get your ticket for the Fall Seminar at Club Italia with Don Komarechka. I'm looking forward to being educated and inspired on November 9th. Register online at nfrcc.org or see Social Chair Michelle Stranges at our Monday, October 28th meeting. Other dates coming up of interest to our



members: NFRCC/OCCC competition, Stoney Creek Lions Club, Saturday, Nov. 23, 10-5pm. 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".

Help Portrait Event 2019: Saturday, November 30 at St. Andrew's United Church, 5645 Morrison St., Niagara Falls. Come and help for the full day, or part of the day. Help is needed to organize people for their photo shoots, posing, or shooting. Don't worry if you are an inexperienced portrait shooter, experienced club members are there to mentor you! Help will also be needed at a later date for framing the photos for delivery to the families.

"A Little Bit of Everything in the Wedding Business" by our own resident pro Charles Vandersluys, Monday, Nov. 4. Most of you have probably been asked at one time or another by that family member or friend to shoot a wedding; (Because you've got a really nice camera!). If you say yes, here are some tips to save you from wedding photo disasters, or, at the very least, embarrassment. Happy Shooting,

Karen Fulham



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

NEWSLETTER

I am extremely excited to announce a new addition to our monthly NFCC publications, called TECH THRILL, and send out the biggest warmest NFCC welcome our new IN FOCUS Correspondent, Lorne Tontegode. Lorne's vision is to provide "techy" information, on all things photographic! This issue launches his first article of many to come.

The Biography segment is still going strong! And as your Editor In Chief, that makes me super happy! This has been a great platform for readers and club members to get to know each other. Mentorships have formed, new friendships have developed, and based on members' commonalities, social interactions are on the up. Thank you, Everyone, for the great feedback and enthusiasm shown. There are a few Bio spots left, for December and January. Please [contact me](#) so we can feature your story!

Also, I encourage you to please send in your photographs to share in our publications, relevant to outings, NFCC Events, Meetings and Workshops. You will be given credit for your submissions and it gives our club a chance to 'show off' all that we do!

Shiree Jettha

SOCIAL

Club Members, please save the dates for our annual NFCC events, coming up:

DECEMBER 16th, 2019 - 5 PM CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER

Please join us for our customary Christmas Potluck Dinner. Bring your favourite dish and enjoy wonderful fellowship and delicious food. A sign up sheet will be posted at club meetings, starting this November.

MAY 02nd, 2020 AWARDS BANQUET

Our Year End Awards Banquet is scheduled for May 2nd, next year. Please watch this space for further details.

You may [email](#) Michelle directly, should you have questions or to pre-sign-up for the Potluck Dinner.

Michelle Stranges

PROGRAM

VISION BEYOND SEEING SEMINAR
WITH DON KOMARECHKA

NOVEMBER 9th, 9:00-3:30 PM

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.

[Register](#) to secure your place!

Scott Simons

OUTINGS & EXCURSIONS

November is jammed packed with activities at the club, so this month of November, we have no outings planned. We shall resume them in December/January.

Loads of fun was had at the Graffiti Alley Walking Tour in Toronto, this October. The 1km artistic spread kept our club members busy for most of the day. Thank you to those who came out.

Shiree Jettha

CLUB EXCURSION: TORONTO'S GRAFFITI ALLEY



PHOTO CREDITS: Scott Simons and Winnie Wang

CLUB EXCURSION: TORONTO'S GRAFFITI ALLEY



PHOTO CREDIT: Winnie Wang

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

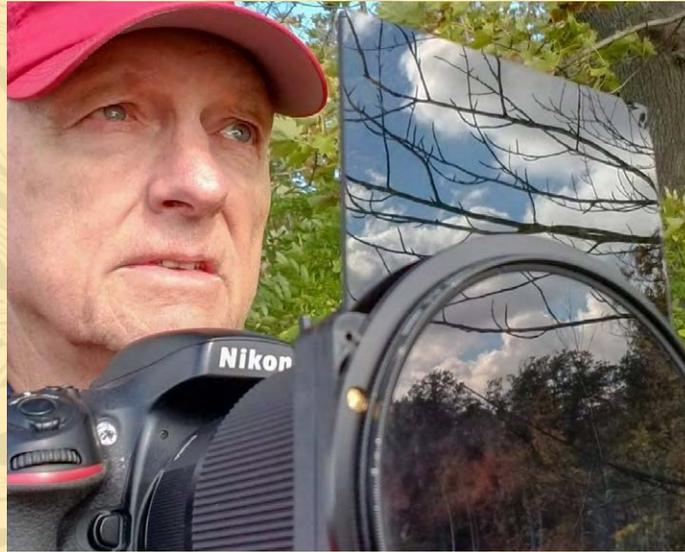
Ron Planche is a marketing and media communications specialist with an academic background in political history, art history and award-winning creative photography. Ron has supplemented his academic background with courses in fund raising development strategies and planned giving.

He started his career as a professional photographer while in University. His first summer job had him, writing, shooting and actually printing the news on a flat bed press for the local newspaper in Dalhousie, New Brunswick. In his last summer before graduation (1967) he was hired by Harvey Studio's to help them outsource spot news photography to the Evening Times Globe and the morning Telegraph Journal Record in St John, NB. In that job he covered The Royal Visit to St. John by Her Majesty the Queen Mother. Through happenstance and unique circumstances, the Queen Mother commanded him to attend the Royal Yacht Britannia for a thank you reception for New Brunswick VIP's not as a member of the working press but as her personal guest. (see photo)

Ron headed back to University to complete his degree. As a parting gift, the editor and staff of the paper arranged for a full access pass to Expo 67 in Montreal. Since, Ron had scheduled 2 days to attend Expo, the pass was more than welcome since it allowed the holder to skip all lineups. The pass was well used and Expo became formative in Ron's Visual and Graphic Education.

Having completed University, he migrated to Ontario where his skills, accomplishments and education went quickly un-noticed. Dejected and

Ron Planche



determined he entered Sheridan College's creative photography program. At Sheridan he developed. The National Film Board of Canada Still Division purchased several prints for their Permanent Collection. While still at school he was given the opportunity by the Conservative Party of Ontario to cover the 1971 Conservative Nomination of Bill Davis as Premier of the Province. The Premier's office ordered 365 of Ron's images.

Shortly there after Ron joined the staff of the local paper (Oakville Journal Record) and became a stringer for the Toronto Star. Ron's photos of the conservative convention came to the attention of the Provincial Liberal Party who invited him to become the in-house campaign photographer in the upcoming election

covering the Liberal Leader, a full-time job with no future prospects. Ron tried to quit the paper, but the editor refused and gave Ron a paid leave of absence as long as each day he would file one photograph from the campaign!

While that gig was formative and really memorable, two years later the Federal Liberals under Pierre Elliot Trudeau required an inhouse political photographer to cover the Prime Minister for the party. The PM already had a personal photographer paid by the House of Commons. The rules were the photographer's images could not be used for political purposes. So, the party asked Ron to cover about 10-12 campaign Prime Ministerial events, including their Campaign College at York University. As part of the job Ron was asked to do the traditional "greet and grab" handshake with every single candidate for brochure purposes. Ron decided to not do that but portray every candidate in a working environment with the PM. The idea was to use the Office of the President at York University for the photo shoot. Politically, that presented the University with a problem, so Ron using his own photos, decorations, books and sculptures set up an office in a corridor and got a candid photo after the shoot that was judged by Yosef Karsh in a Commonwealth Competition to be of exceptional merit.

Planche has a professional background in sales and marketing, government relations and photojournalism. His 25 years of

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

marketing and sales management experience includes developing and implementing strategic and tactical marketing initiatives and developing communications materials for dynamic growing companies. He served as national sales manager and executive vice-president in the computer industry and specializing in computer aided graphics.

Politically he served as an elected Oakville local and regional councillor for the Region of Halton, and for eight years was the political assistant to Niagara Falls MPP, Kim Craitor both in Mr. Craitor's Niagara Falls Community and his Ontario Legislative Assembly office at Queen's Park giving him excellent creative insight into electoral politics

and political management and governance.

With a lifetime interest in photography, Ron's creative focus as a professional photojournalist is putting powerful subject matter in context with the environment.

Currently Ron specializes in very large landscape photography. He loves panoramas and specializes in a technique that stitches together up to 100 photographs the create a super high definition

digital negative for display and exhibition purposes.

In 40+ years of community service, Ron has served on over twenty professional and community boards including - Founding Member, Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, Board of Governors - Sheridan College of Applied Arts and Technology and Director, Oakville Chamber of Commerce to name a few. 🍁

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

PANORAMA OF 76 IMAGE COMPOSITE.

HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, QUEEN ELIZABETH (THE QUEEN MOTHER).

THE PRIME MINISTER, SPEAKING WITH AN AID AFTER THE COMPLETION OF AN INDIVIDUAL PHOTO SHOOT WITH ALL 95 ONTARIO CAUCUS MEMBERS AND CANDIDATES.



MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Lorne Tontegode

“I fell in love with photography, the gear and the experience early on in life.” It all started with Lorne’s uncle who worked for Benjamin Film Labs in Toronto, and whenever they had a family-get-together, Tontegode would marvel at the work he did; he was so passionate about his hobby according to the young and curious lad. Lorne asked him lots of questions. His father was also into photography but he worked too much to show him the ropes. Lorne still has his father’s first ‘good camera,’ a Zeiss-Ikon folding camera with a leather case, that he bought in Germany, where he spent some time after leaving Latvia, during WWII.

When Lorne was about 20, he bought his first SLR camera, a Canon AE1 Program. He had always wanted to do developing and build a darkroom but that never came to fruition. He used the AE1 Program a lot and shot in manual mode, as well as other priority settings, to get things going. His usual shots were of car shows and racing, but Tontegode also liked candid shots of people. “I guess there were too many shots of posed people so I wanted something different,” he shared. When he first started working as a Tool and Die Maker, there was an older gentleman at the factory where he worked, who was also into photography. Lorne remembers his advice quite well: he told him to always have the camera with him in his car, which he abided to for some time.

When his dream camera came down enough in price, Lorne made the move... purchasing an almost new Canon T90. He enjoyed that camera but being a self proclaimed techie, he realized digital was going to take over, very early on. “The problem was that the resolution took so long to come about”, remembers



Lorne. “I know that many people get down on people that like, to have the best/most gear but please consider this. I have always taken things apart, (I was the one that got them back together though), to figure out how they work. I love machinery, craftsmanship, technology and the hardware, fascinates me as much as the art. So even though you may think that the gear isn’t important to you, we all beat to a different drum and some of us fall in love with the hardware too.” Lorne continued, “If you find your dream in the resultant image that’s okay, I find it in understanding the mechanics, the hardware, the science, and the entire process. I love tools and that’s how my brain works. That’s my passion.”

“What’s really interesting about me is that back in ’93 I invented what is now a high end feature in some cameras, sensor shifting to get higher resolution through Pixel Shifting. I’ve always been an inventor, (see my love for technology), so I always try to fix things or make them better. I called my new invention “Virtual Enhancement of CCD Density”. Unfortunately having a great idea is only part of the success and I fell for a company called Invention Submission Corporation back then and spent money to have a document made up. They weren’t able to help like they said and I eventually gave up on it. Now everyone seems to have a pixel shift camera in their lineup. Oh well.”

When digital finally got to the point where a camera could compete with film, he sold his T90, all of his lenses, and the Haliburton Zero case to buy a FujiFilm MX2900 and never looked back to film. Unfortunately the camera did not really deliver and so his interest in photography dwindled for quite a while. Then, the Nikon D80 was released and he grabbed it, shortly upgrading to the D90.

Lorne admits that he did not get the photography passion back, the kind he had when he was younger, and resorted to mostly a generalized style of shooting photographs. He mentioned using some “okay gear” as he calls it, like kit lenses and a 80-300mm and admits to barely getting them out of the camera bag, and even stopped following the rule his old

MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

Lorne Tontegode

friend told im about. Instead cell phones were sartin to be very handy. Then he got a Lumia 1020 with 41 megaiexels, and that pushed Lorne further away from the DSLR.

It was only during a trip to Japan over Christmas of 2017, that fired up Lorne's photographic passion. Lorne was grateful for the reawakening but then seven years ago, a car accident did some damage to his back.

"It sure would be nice to have a young man's body again to do the hikes and climbing. All that being said though, I am enjoying getting back into it and the people at the camera club are fantastic. I feel I am finally able to, as they say, take my shooting to the next level."🍁

PHOTO CAPTIONS:

SNOWBIRDS - REMEMBERING #5

BOAT IN NYC - NYC TRANQUILITY

NIAGARA FALLS SUNSET - IT WAS A GOOD DAY!

JAPAN - PRINCE HOTEL VIEW, JAPAN

DAVID USHER - I LOVE THIS JOB



MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES



Karen Fulham

while she claims, her passion for the needle and thread decidedly has. Her interest in Photography was even more intensified when she joined the Niagara Falls Camera Club in the 1990s. Here, she found encouragement in her pursuit, from other like-minded club members. “I began to look at things around me in an entirely new way. Things I had not noticed before now, were potential photographic subjects; interesting and beautiful things were everywhere, not just the obvious, or the “pretty”. An “inner eye” was opened,” she shared.

“It’s this phenomenon that reinforces my belief that photography leads one into a particular state of “mindfulness” that is beneficial both mentally and physically. I’ve always taken inspiration from the members in my club who have gone on to enjoy photography into their 80’s and 90’s, and I firmly believe that someday “that will be me,” she fessed up. Over time she has experimented with different styles and different creative approaches. “If it looks like my photography is all over the map, well, it probably is, and I make no

apologies,” reinforces Karen. She finds all aspects of photography interesting, and is eager to try new techniques. She regularly participates in club competitions. The feedback and insight that she receives has always been valuable to her. “Even if my images do not always score highly, I enter them for the sheer joy of sharing my work with others,” claims Karen. Social media has offered her the opportunity to connect with a wider circle of like-minded enthusiasts and has allowed her to tell the some of the backstories that go along with her images. Karen acknowledges that nothing compares to the face to face human interaction offered at NFCC, and the bonds of friendship formed over the years, is unparalleled. Karen hopes to keep learning, keep improving, to venture more and more into the realm of the “creative.” She feels compelled lately to tell stories along with my images and enjoys the mental exercise it affords. “I hope to include more travel photography in my life; travel photographer/ blogger- is my fantasy job!” ♦



PHOTO CAPTIONS :
HOLBORN VIADUCT, ENGLAND
SUNFLOWER
HAVANA, CUBA

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 the biographies are received in.

If you would like to share your story, please [EMAIL](#) as soon as possible to secure your spot for the DECEMBER and JANUARY editions.

VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE



SIGN UP

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

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

HELP PROJECT

PLEASE CONTACT [SCOTT SIMONS](#)

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.



TECH THRILL with Lorne Tontegode

While I'm not yet comfortable in my photography/artistry skills, I can certainly hold my own when it comes to technology and am a self-confessed lover of tech and gadgets. Always have been and since I was a child, I have had the strong desire to understand why things work the way they do. The world is moving so fast in all things related to computers that it's hard to keep up. Throw in photography and many get lost.

To that end, I'd like to talk a bit (pun intended) about RAW files and why you may want to consider using them if you don't already. For starters, let's talk about what RAW means in its simplest definition.

RAW files must be processed before you can show them to others. RAW is like the exposed roll of film that hasn't left the case, it hasn't been developed yet. In its essence, it has been affected by photons (light) but there haven't been any adjustments made yet. The RAW file is an almost pure dump from the sensor to a file. Due to light (and your sensor) being analogue and data being in 1s and 0s, there is some interaction with technology but it is fairly pure.

All good digital cameras provide you with the option of saving your file in RAW or JPEG or both. JPEG (or JPG) stands for Joint Photographic Experts Group and is an oldish "lossy" file format. That is, it squeezes the file smaller by both looking for things that are similar and replicating them but also by throwing stuff away and putting in what's close. The lower the quality number, the more it throws away.

That isn't the only thing that gets destroyed with JPEG. Your camera has many settings that help it to determine what you were expecting in your photo. Not only is there a quality setting but there are myriad other settings. The camera's processor uses your

RAW THE UNBRIDLED POWER



JPEG vs RAW



settings to adjust the sensor data to make a JPEG file. It is permanently altered and can't be brought back.

If you are old enough and either did your own processing or sent your film to a lab, you've enough experience to have realized that film can be processed differently to make a negative and even more so, processed differently to make a photo. A photo is the result of the type of film and its exposure (i.e. the camera settings and exposure to your sensor), the developing of the negative (i.e. some of the processing internal to the camera) and the final print processing (i.e. the JPEG settings that influence your file and how you then print it if you do). Some photo print labs did a great job while others didn't.

If you make the wrong settings (e.g. chose portrait colour profile) with JPEG, you don't have a backup. It is already past the point of no return when the JPEG is written. With RAW, even if you screw up by setting your camera for B&W or choose the wrong scene, you still get the actual camera sensor data, verbatim of what it "saw". Obviously you still have to know your exposure triangle as well as many other settings so your camera can "see" properly. And yes, you can still tweak a JPEG image but the range is much less and it degrades further each time you save it. With RAW, you start with a flat appearing image and you add your style/intent to it. You make the decisions.

If that isn't reason enough, next time I'll explain bit depth which should blow your mind. The tones in an 8-bit JPEG make up only 0.0000038 of a 14-bit RAW file. There are 4.4 TRILLION colours possible in a 14-bit RAW; that's why you can pull incredible detail out of shadows in editing. It's absolutely amazing and opens up so many possibilities. Think HDR in one photo.

COMPETITION RESULTS - PRINT

COLOR

BRONZE	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
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LORNE TONTEGODE	4	4	64
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LISA KELLEY	4	2	47
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LIZ MASSE	2	2	31
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SILVER	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
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CAROL DOBRINDT	4	4	64
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RON PLANCHE	4	3	56
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GOLD	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
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SHIREE JETHA	4	2	56
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DIAMOND	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
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LARRY MATHEWSON	4	3	62
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NORA MATHEWSON	4	2	60
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KAREN FULHAM	4	1	53
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LORRAINE PICHETTE	4	-	43
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BLACK AND WHITE

BRONZE	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
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LISA KELLEY	3	3	41
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LORNE TONTEGODE	1	1	13
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SILVER	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
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RON PLANCHE	4	4	66
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CAROL DOBRINDT	4	2	53
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GOLD	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
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SHIREE JETHA	4	4	70
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DIAMOND	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
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NORA MATHEWSON	4	2	57
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LARRY MATHEWSON	4	1	53
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LORRAINE PICHETTE	4	-	45
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COMPETITION RESULTS - DIGITAL

BRONZE	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
LORNE TONTEGODE	4	4	55
LISA KELLEY	2	1	25
SIMONE GOMES	2	1	23
GEOFFREY WATERS	2	1	22

GOLD	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
SHIREE JETHA	4	3	63
MICHELLE STRANGERS	4	1	50
LORRAINE PICHETTE	4	1	50
PAULA CHISSON	4	1	49
LINDA CASEMENT	4	1	47
RON WING	4	1	45
CURTIS CAPUANO	2	2	32
LIZ MASSE	2	2	32
CAROL DOBRINDT	2	1	27
DOUG BANAS	2	-	21

SILVER	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
JONI CARPENTER	4	3	60
RICHARD GRANT	4	3	53
RON PLANCHE	2	-	20

DIAMOND	ENTRIES	HONOR	TOTAL
SCOTT SIMONS	4	4	68
CHRIS EMPEY	4	2	60
PEARL BASCO	4	3	59
NORA MATHEWSON	4	2	56
LARRY MATHEWSON	4	2	56

NOVEMBER SUMMARY

November 4
6 for 6:30 PM

CLUB MEETING:
A Little bit of Everything in the Wedding Business
By Charles Vandersluys

November 9
9 AM - 3 PM

NFRCC Fall Seminar Featuring Don Komarechka

November 18
6 for 6:30 PM

3rd Print and Digital Image Competition

November 23
10 AM - 5 PM

NFRCC/OCCC Competition,
Stoney Creek Lions Club,
Sherwood Park Rd. Stoney Creek, Ontario.

\$15 includes admission to the competition, lunch, and keynote speaker David Chapman who will present his program "Super Storms of Ontario".

November 30
All Day

Project Help Portrait. St. Andrew's United Church,
5645 Morrison St., Niagara Falls.

MISSED AN ISSUE OF IN FOCUS?

Read All About It In The Archives



SEPTEMBER 2019
Special Edition



SEPTEMBER 2019



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FACEBOOK GROUP