



Prairie Focus

Prairie Region of Photographic Arts
Volume 46 No. 1
Fall 2005



Attanyi Salon Print Competition, 2005

First: *Collecting Shells* by Edward Sawatzky, Winnipeg South Photo Club (above)
Second: *Lincoln Dreams* by Bob Christopher, Foothills Camera Club (back top left)
Third: *Harley* by Alice Pritchard, Gleneath Camera Club (back top right)

Sports in Action Print Competition, 2005

First: *Jumper* by Eldred Stamp, Wild Rose Camera Club (back bottom left)
Third: *Top of His Form* Don Mathieson, Regina Photo Club (back bottom right)

Alberta ❁ Saskatchewan ❁ Manitoba

PRPA Executive for 2004-2005

Chairperson	Wilma Gamble	2403 24A St. SW, Calgary AB T3E 1V9 403-246-8343 wrgamble@shaw.ca
Secretary	Shirley Gerlock	2471 Broder Street, Regina SK S4N 3T1 306-757-3328 sjgerlock@accesscomm.ca
Treasurer	Wesley Swan	Box 154, Nipawin SK S0E 1E0 306-862-4135 treasurer@prpa.ca
Membership	Irene Stinson	449-2nd Avenue SE, Swift Current SK S9H 3J7 306-773-7320 istinson@sasktel.net
Competitions	Eldred Stamp	5902-58 Ave., Panoka, AB T4J 1L4 403-783-3299 eldred1@telus.net
Newsletter	Stan Hingston	Box 1177, Rosetown SK S0L 2V0 sghingston@sasktel.net Res: 306-882-2263 Wk: 882-2220 Fax: 882-2370
Slide Circuit	Christopher Dean	908 Saskatchewan Crescent East, Saskatoon SK S7N 0L5 306-652-7262 c.j.dean@shaw.ca
Print Circuit	Jeanette Dean	as above
Print Exhibition	Alfred Labrecque	Box 1777, Rosetown SK S0L 2V0 306-882-2261
Past President	Gordon Hunter	715 Deercroft Way SE, Calgary AB T2J 5V4 403-271-4039 ge.hunter@shaw.ca

PRPA Club Representatives

Central Alberta Photo Society	Curtiss Lund	403-347-2709 clund1@telus.net
Battlefords Photo Club	Heather Anderson	306-445-5315 haha@sasktel.net
Caroline Clickers	Dan Jahraus	403-729-2172
Chinook Camera Club	Don & Shirley Clark	403-625-3254
Foothills Camera Club	Janice Meyers-Foreman	403-289-7617 meyersjb@telus.net [new]
Gateway Camera Club	Isabel Hill	780-475-2317
Gleneath Camera Club	Sheila Keller	306-463-3940
Image West Photo Assn	Arlyne Lawson	306-773-7561
Moose Jaw Camera Club	Sheina Wait	306-692-8218
Nipawin Camera Club	Wesley Swan	306-862-4135 wesley@swanphotography.ca
Northern Image Photographers (PA)	Geoff Payton	306-922-3394 Geoff.Payton@shaw.ca
Parkland Camera Club	Darlene McCullough	306-873-2030 darlene.mccullough@sasktel.net
Regina Photo Club	Shirley Gerlock	306-757-3328 sjgerlock@accesscomm.ca
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Saskatoon Camera Club	Maureen Sinclair	306-955-2373 maureen.sinclair@sasktel.net
Wild Rose Camera Club	Verna Allison	403-749-2003 lvson2@telusplanet.net [corrected]
Winnipeg South Photo Club	Tyrrell Mendis	204-774-0677 tymendis@shaw.ca

Club Websites

	PRPA	http://prpa.ca/
Central Alberta Photo Society		www.mycommunityinformation.com/caps
Foothills Camera Club		www.foothillscameraclub.ab.ca
Moose Jaw Camera Club		www.geocities.com/moosejawcameraclub
Nipawin Camera Club		www.nipawincameraclub.com
Northern Image Photographers		http://niphoto.tripod.com
Parkland Camera Club		www.parklandphotographyclub.com
Regina Photo Club		www.reginaphotoclub.com rpc@reginaphotoclub.com
Rosetown Photography Club		www.rosetownphotoclub.com
Saskatoon Camera Club		www.saskatooncameraclub.com
Winnipeg South Photo Club		www.winnipegsouthphotoclub.ca

From the Chair

by Wilma Gamble

It is with some trepidation that I take over the position of Chairperson which was so ably handled for the past three years by Gordon Hunter. Thank you Gordon. I can only hope that I am up to the challenge and look forward to meeting each of you over the coming years.

We have an excellent team of executive members and club representatives volunteering their time and talents for our Club and I would like to thank each of them for their dedication to PRPA. Also, I would like to welcome and thank Jeanette and Chris Dean for coming forward to take over as Print and Slide Circuit Co-ordinators. It is good to have them back on the executive.

A huge thank you goes out to the Wild Rose Camera Club for the excellent job they did as hosts and arranging the Summer Outing in Nordegg. It seems to be a given that we have rain at least sometime during our Summer Outings, but things got a little carried away this year. Wild Rose Camera Club did a superb job under adverse conditions. A thank you also goes to Frans Brouwers and Jeff Perkins for their impromptu programs and instruction on Saturday as well as to everyone who attended the outing. You made it work and you made it fun. Because of the rain I was able to get some very different images this year and one that I particularly like. Next year's Outing will be held in Saskatoon and promises to be an event "not-to-be-missed".

A warm welcome is extended to all of our existing and new members and, in particular, those from Manitoba. We are greatly encour-

aged by having representation in Manitoba - the first in many years. I would invite each of you to take an active role in your Club by participating in all competitions, the slide and print circuits, the travelling print exhibition and the summer outings. This is your Club and we welcome your input and suggestions. Please contact me, another executive member or your Club Representative.

A presentation by CAPA was made to our membership at the Annual General Meeting this June whereby they asked our consideration in joining forces with PRPA. We would operate autonomously but under the umbrella of CAPA as the Prairie Zone, sharing our newsletter and thus cutting expenses for both organizations. Discussion followed and any motions were tabled until next year. More details will be provided at a later time but it was agreed that each and every member **will** have a vote on this matter.

This is one of my favourite seasons for getting out with my camera - the wonderful fall colours, the harvest scenes and all those little critters storing up supplies for the winter. Happy shooting everyone.

AGM Minutes

The minutes of the June 2005 AGM are being distributed with this newsletter. Please read and note any errors or omissions. Remember to bring them to the June 2006 AGM in Saskatoon.

Competition Chair Report

By Eldred Stamp

As I write this, sixteen months have passed since I took this position. During this time the learning curve has been very steep however I think I'm on top of it now. The biggest challenges were to understand the competitions and to prepare for the presentations at the Outing.

At the annual AGM changes were made to the competition procedures. For example copy-right marked pictures or slides will not be judged because of the problems with privacy and copy-right laws. Another change is that pictures entered in any PRPA competition cannot ever be entered in any other competition within PRPA. Also, members who enter pictures in a competition can judge that competition but cannot judge their own entry. The mark for this entry will be determined by the judging coordinator and could possibly be either the average of the other judges or the lowest score given by the other judges. Should a conflict arise contact me.

At the Outing two people entered the Showmanship competition, Larry Eastman and myself. Larry's presentation was a canoe trip, presented in memory of a close friend. Mine was about my trip to the Dallas Zoo and Aquarium. Both were well received. I would like to remind everyone that this competition is open to all. And with digital photography becoming very prevalent and easy to use, slide shows are now very easy to create and present. Hope to see yours next year.

At the Outing I attempted to get everyone involved by having a People's Choice picture selection exercise. The results were so unwieldy that I cannot work with the results I got. Therefore there is nothing to report on this year's try. A few suggestions were made which I hope to include in next year's Outing and the People's Choice exercise will be attempted again. Hopefully with better and more workable results.

A reminder that November 1st is the final day to enter the slide competitions. To be eligible for the

slide competitions, memberships must be paid by November 1. Clubs that will be judging this year's competitions are:

Russel - Central Alberta Photo Society
c/o Curtiss Lund
15 Otterbury Ave,
Red Deer AB T4N 4Z8

Everest - Nipawin Camera Club
c/o Wesley Swan
Box 154,
Nipawin, SK S0E 1E0

Mabel Clarke - Battlefords Photo Club
c/o Heather Anderson
1151—106 Street
North Battleford, SK S9A 1W8

The theme for the Russell, which is a pair of slides illustrating opposites, is OPEN/CLOSED. The two pictures do not have to be of the same subject.

A copy of the PRPA entry form (suitable for all competitions) is inserted in this newsletter. Please save and copy as needed. It will also be available soon on the PRPA website for downloading. Competition descriptions and judging forms are in a Competition Handbook being sent to each club representative.

In closing I would like to suggest that you visit the web site www.artworld.si for relevant information about art and photography and which also discusses issues related to both these fields as well as giving tutorials in digital photography.

I can be reached at eldredstamp@telus.net or 403-783-3299 to discuss any concern you may have regarding the competitions.

Have a nice day and may your picture taking skills grow and develop.

Slide & Print Circuits

Report by Christopher & Jeanette Dean

Jeanette (prints) and Christopher (slides) Dean have taken over both circuits and are preparing them to begin new rounds before the end of September.

There are four print circuits and three slide circuits at the moment and we are hoping to add new members to both slide and print circuits. There will be two rounds in the year for both. In each round in the print circuit you can submit two prints in any size up to 8 x 10 on any subject, in either black and white or in colour; and in the slide circuit any set of four slides.

The circuits give members a wonderful opportunity to see the work of others in other clubs and to receive helpful critiques of their own work.

The Deans have been members of PRPA since 1975 and have served in several positions on the executive - Jeanette as Membership Chair, Print Circuit Chair and as the club representative for the Saskatoon Club, while Chris has served as PRPA Chairperson, Competitions Chair and Club Secretary.

Please email, write or phone us for more information (see page 2 for our contact information).

Here are the results of the slide circuits from last year:

Slide Circuit #1, Round 39

1st Jean Harris: *Cloud Formation; Farm Fowl; Richardson Ground Squirrel; Saskatchewan in July*
2nd Alfred Hauk: *Let Me Tell You Something; Get Yourself a Wagon Ride; Attacked by Wolves; The Past Meets the Present*
3rd Vern Sanders: *A Golden Pair; The Poppy Field; Blossoms-Red and Gold; Three's Company*

Slide Circuit #2, Round 42

1st Earl Hill: *Summer Day; Iris; Prehistoric; Barn Wall*
2nd Wilma Gamble: *Against a Stormy Sky; Early Morning Fog; Riding High; Indian Paint Brush*
3rd Betty Davis: *Rock and Clouds; Bull Moose; Basket Carrier; Crocus Group*

Slide Circuit #3, Round 42

1st Bob Christopher: *Waiting for News; Balsam Root in Bloom (see photo page 7); Kananaskis Reflections; Salute to the Past*
2nd Palle Kjar: *Tumble Weed; Milk River Hooded; Wyoming's Curve; Red Rock Coulee*
3rd Arlyne Lawson: *Blazing a Trail; After the Harvest; Cascading Current; Rippling Rill*

Print Exhibition

Report by Stan Hingston

The 2005-06 PRPA Print Exhibition got off to a great start with the submission of 9 prints by the *Northern Image Photographers* of Prince Albert. We still need another 14 prints to complete the show, so send them in.

We'd like to get the show on the road in November so we need the prints by the end of October. They are returned at the Outing.

The exhibition is available from Nov to May — 7 months, therefore 7 clubs can have

it for a one-month display. Clubs with entries get the first choice of month for their display. The clubs are responsible for sending the 2 large wooden crates on to the next club.

Prints can be of any subject; color or B&W. They may be of any size (8x10 is the suggested minimum) but must be matted to 16x20. Contact Alfred or Stan for more information (addresses and phone numbers are on page 2). Mail the prints to Alfred.



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www.konikaminolta.ca



Balsam Root in Bloom

Bob Christopher,
Foothills Camera Club

One of four slides that won
him First in Slide Circuit #3.

Original: color slide

Foto Fun — Report by Jean Harris

Foto Fun has completed another successful year. Thanks to all who entered. Congratulations to the winners for 2004 (note a tie for first place):

- 1st Brian Corby — *Bridge to the End*
- 1st Jim Slough — *A Study in Perspective*
- 2nd Jerry Springer — *Evening*
- 3rd Laurie St. Marie — *So Cute*

The top slides from the past four years have been duplicated and compiled into a slide show. It

will be circulated to all the clubs who entered, beginning in September 2005. There will not be a *Foto Fun* competition in 2005.

Foto Fun is an annual slide club competition sponsored by the *Gleneath Camera Club* of Kindersley. It is open to all Saskatchewan photo clubs and one of the rules is that the slides must have been taken in Saskatchewan. *Foto Fun* is not a PRPA competition.

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Club Reports

Rosetown Photography Club

Report by Stan Hingston

RPC has had the most successful year financially in its 22 year history. Three of our fundraising projects netted a total of over \$4,000 over the summer. Sales of the "I Am Saskatchewan" DVD is nearing 300 copies, all burned on my home PC. Another DVD slide show called "Rosetown—A Look Back" was produced by RPC club member Don Barbour for our community's homecoming. It combines old photos from the Rosetown Archives with recent photos (taken by Don), showing the many changes over the years. We have sold nearly 300 copies which Don has burned on his business computer at work. (Don and I are getting "burned out" and will be glad when the demand slows down a bit).

Our club's other main project is the Ritchie Studio negatives which were donated to our club in 2001. We finally got all 30 boxes (over 7,000 envelopes) of negatives catalogued alphabetically (on M.S. Access) and are now contacting people who had photos taken by the studio. We are returning the negatives to them in exchange for a donation to the club. This has brought in nearly \$1,000 so far and we haven't started to advertise.

We donated 30% from the Rosetown Homecoming sales of the historical DVD to each of the Rosetown Archives and the *Rosetown Rewound* musical play that was the main feature of the weekend. (I had a few roles in the cast and chorus and couldn't afford to miss any rehearsals, which was why I didn't get to the Outing).

We have already purchased an Epson Perfection 4870 scanner which can handle the medium and large format negatives used by Ritchie Studio, so we can offer scanning and printing services to those we return the negatives to. We are now buying a large format printer, the new HP DesignJet 130, which will take a 100" x 24" roll of photo paper. Then we'll be ready to enter the PRPA print competitions!

Battlefords Photography Club

Report by Heather Anderson

Greetings all. Although not a large club, the Battlefords Photo Club has been growing steadily since its first recorded meeting in 1985-86. As of June 2005, we have about 30 members.

We have two in-club competitions per year; one in the Spring and one in the Fall. The Spring 2005 Competition "Best of Show" ribbon and "People's Choice" ribbon were both awarded to Harvey Anderson. Well done, Harvey. The Fall competition will be held the first part of November this year.

Our club opened the new season this September with a field trip to our local Western Development Museum. Everyone was encouraged to try some black and white film for developing at our October meeting. There was a good turnout and the evening was enjoyed by all.

Our 2005-06 season promises to be an interesting and informative one. On the agenda are developing and printing black & white, hand-colouring black & white, forensic photography, digital photography and more tips and hands-on in photography in general. We strive to learn and to improve our photography and have fun while doing so.

We hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and that the fall and coming winter prove to be enjoyable also, with many photo opportunities for everyone.

Battlefords Photography Club

Box 565, North Battleford, SK, S9A 2Y9

Executive for 2005-06:

President: Christa Verhoeven

cverhoeven@sasktel.net

Vice-President Laurie St. Marie

wersaints@hotmail.com

Rita Chamberlain, Secretary

Clare Shepherd, Treasurer

mblue@sasktel.net

Saskatoon Camera Club

Report by Maureen Sinclair



The Saskatoon Camera Club has got a running start on another busy year with a successful registration evening; a very informative presentation by local photographer and instructor, Dave Mandeville; and a member's night on black and white photography during which vice-president Jean Francois Dionne outlined how to get good B&W digital images using Photoshop.

- Upcoming guest speakers include:
- October 18: Cliff Adolf on "Underwater Photography"
- November 8: a staff member from Motion Picture and Sound on digital photography
- January 17: Greg Pinder on "Photojournalism"
- February 14: Trudy Janssens on Portraiture
- March 21: Hans Dommasch topic TBA

Our Annual Fall Field Trip was held on Sunday September 25 at Blackstrap Provincial Park with the objective of shooting fall colours.

There is never enough time at the meetings to just visit with all the friends we made in the club (and to share photo tips). To resolve this the club has added a Coffee Social held from 4-6 pm on the last Friday of the month at various coffee shops in the city.

As well as the regular program, the club is running several special projects this year. A black and white print competition with virtually no restrictions is being held in November. It is hoped to interest the digital shooters in this medium. The search for a new club logo is on and the calendar project—Saskatoon Cityscape—with the Mendel is going ahead.

The Saskatoon Camera Club holds six clinics each year. Members select a couple slides or prints to be evaluated by a panel of three judges, rated, and given constructive comments. The clinics are held in seven categories for slides, color and B&W prints, digital prints and creative prints; and at two levels: intermediate and advanced. The six clinic topics this year are:

- Photographer's Choice
- Open Nature
- Windows
- Forest Floor (Nature)
- Texture
- Leaves (Nature)

All meetings start promptly at 7:00 p.m. on the first three Tuesdays of each month in the Mendel Art Gallery Auditorium (950 Spadina Crescent East) unless otherwise stated or announced at the meetings.

Check the club website for up-to-date information on meetings and other club activities. www.saskatooncameraclub.com

Classifieds

For Sale: **35mm Film Scanner** \$ 200.00
Minolta Dimage Scan Speed F-2800 c/w
Adaptec 2940UW PCI SCSI Card and APS
adaptor. I was using it on WindowsXP with
Photoshop, Corel Draw, and numerous other
software. It is fully compatible to Windows
95. It is a dedicated film scanner with far
more resolution than a flatbed. Curtiss Lund
(403)347-2709 or [clund1 @ telus.net](mailto:clund1@telus.net)

**New York Institute of Photography
Digital Photography Tips**

http://www.nyip.com/tips/dig_tips.php

This is a free site offering tips in several areas of digital photography.

1. Controlling the flash—overriding the auto-flash when you want it to flash in bright situations and when you don't in low light
2. Testing your camera's time delay, both shutter lag and recycling time
3. General digital camera buying guide—what features to look for and what questions to ask

For the more serious photographer, NYI offers "**Digital Photography—the Complete Course**". This on-line home-study course includes 38 lessons in 6 units mostly using Adobe Photoshop (the full program, not Elements). Cost is \$998 US total (for the monthly payment option). Lessons include choosing and using a digital camera (you need a camera but not necessarily a digital); choosing and using a scanner; and developing a "digital eye". Marketing is also covered.

Webmaster Report [Continued from page 11]

Creativity. The HTML markup language gives everyone creating Web pages the same set of basic tools. Good Home Pages combine those tools in new and innovative ways, and give Web surfers a reason to check them out rather than some other, similar pages. The Web gives you an opportunity to have your work viewed by literally thousands, or even millions of other people around the world — make the most of it!

Personality. Your home page is your window on the Internet. It should give people viewing it a sense of who you are. This can mean the obvious, like biographical information, or more subtle forms of content that demonstrate your interests and outlook on life. Don't feel that you have to do the same thing some other "cool" page did; make your home page YOURS.

Have a look at my site www.swanphotography.ca. I think my pages still need work. But I'm interested to hear what **you** have to say. Send me your comments to wesley@swanphotography.ca



Application for Membership in *Prairie Region of Photographic Arts*

I hereby apply for membership in the Prairie Region of Photographic Arts.

Enclosed is my membership fee of \$20.00 (payable to PRPA).

Memberships expire June 30 of each year.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Postal Code _____ Email _____

I am a member of (photography club) _____

(or) I am joining as an individual rather than through a club _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Mail to: Irene Stinson, PRPA Membership Chairperson

449—2nd Avenue S.E., Swift Current, SK S9H 3J7

Phone (306)773-7320

Webmaster Report

by Wesley Swan webmaster@prpa.com

I have been busy updating the web site. I have a lot of the winning images from last years competitions online. No one has signed up for their free web space yet. This is a great opportunity for members to show their work. I will be setting up a survey on the web site soon. Please fill it out and send to me.

Working with web pages must be scary for some. There is a lot of good software out there, which makes it much easier. Microsoft FrontPage works a lot like Microsoft Word and allows you to upload directly to your site. Or you can work on your pages right online. The other popular way is using an ftp program. Instructions are on the web site in the members area on how to use wsftp for uploading to your web site. Microsoft Word has an add on editor for web page design. Microsoft Publisher has ready-made templates. If you search the web there are many other programs available.

What Makes A Good Web Page The number of personal Home Pages are exploding. Individuals suddenly have access to powerful tools for the mass dissemination of information; previously available only to experts and specialists. The result has been some wonderfully valuable and creative work. So the question arises — what are the qualities that make a good Home Page? At the technical level, there are several HTML style guides that discuss proper syntax, and how to make sure a page displays properly. But what characterizes outstanding personal Home Pages and what should be avoided?

A Home Page should be more than just a Hot List. Far too many pages are simply "my cool links" and nothing else of consequence. Web directories such as Yahoo and search engines such as Google are much better for this than any one person's page. So don't put hot lists or links in your personal pages. What makes a Home Page truly distinctive is the material *on that page*. Pages that do feature lists of links can add some value if they provide helpful descriptions or groupings.

Layout and Design. Good pages don't overuse inline images for their own sake, and have a consistent layout and organization. The more extensive the page or pages, the more important it is to have navigational aids like "what's new" pages and tables of contents. Also, don't go overboard with slow-loading graphics, and optimize the graphics you do use by reducing the file size.

Original Content. This overlaps to some extent with the first point, but is worth elaborating. One of the main things that make a Home Page good is that it is unique. Given the vastness of the Net, what makes pages unique is generally the personal material that the author brings to the table.

Depth. The best Home Pages always give you a sense that there is something beneath the surface, and that exploration will be rewarded with new discoveries. This doesn't necessarily mean dozens of different pages; it's a matter of using hypertext in an intelligent way to expand the impact of the material you do have. [continued on page 10]

The Last Word

Editor's Report by Stan Hingston

The Print competition winners which were not available last issue are published on the cover with the exception of *The Race is On* by Peter Barthel of CAPS (2nd place Sports in Action) which was not available.

Please check the contact list (page 2) for errors. Report to me with any changes to the Club Reps, addresses, phone, email addresses, and websites.

Instead of the *Photography Online* or *Pixelated* digital columns this time, I reviewed the NYI digital-tips website and course. I welcome submissions to either of these or to the more general *Photo Tips* column.

Submission Deadlines for the Newsletter

Winter: January 15 Summer: May 31
Spring: March 30 Autumn: September 15

