



Prairie Focus

Prairie Region of Photographic Arts

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Fall/Winter 2007/08

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Bee And Flower

by Don Mathieson

Regina Camera Club

Gerry Fish

Best Computer Enhanced



ALBERTA



SASKATCHEWAN



MANITOBA

PRPA Executive & Committee Chairs for 2006-2007

Chairperson	Stan Hingston	Box 1177, Rosetown SK S0L 2V0	sghingston@sasktel.net
		Res: 306-882-2263	Work: 882-2220 Fax: 882-2370
Secretary	Pat Derbowka	197 Goerzen St., Saskatoon SK S7K 7A6	306-242-7265
		mogifest@sasktel.net	
Treasurer	Gwen McNichol	Box 2084, Rosetown, SK S0L2V0	306-882-2403
		gwenanddale@sasktel.net	
Competitions	Rella Lavoie	Box 520 Kindersley, SK S0L 1S0	306-838-4213
		ar.lavoie@sasktel.net	
Membership	Gwen McNichol	as above	
Newsletter	Wesley Swan	11464-132St. # 8 Edmonton, AB T5M 1G1	780-451-3313
		wswan@shaw.ca	
Slide Circuit	Maureen Sinclair	216, 4040A—8ThE, Saskatoon, SK S7H 5L4	306-955-2373
		maureen.sinclair@sasktel.net	
Print Circuit	Maureen Sinclair	as above	
Past President	Wilma Gamble	2403 24A St SW Calgary, AB T3E 1V9	403-2468343
		gamblewr@shaw.ca	

PRPA Club Representatives

Caroline Clickers	Dan Jahraus	403-729-2172	
Foothills Camera Club	Gordon Hunter	403-271-4039	ge.hunter@shaw.ca
Gleneath Camera Club	Rella Lavoie	306-838-4213	ar.lavoie@sasktel.net
Northern Image Photographers (PA)	Geoff Payton	306-922-3394	Geoff.Payton@shaw.ca
Regina Photo Club	Shirley Gerlock	306-757-3328	sjgerlock@accesscomm.ca
Rosetown Photography Club	Stan Hingston	306-882-2220	sghingston@sasktel.net
Saskatoon Camera Club	Maureen Sinclair	306-955-2373	maureen.sinclair@sasktel.net
Wild Rose Camera Club (Red Deer)	Verna Allison	403-749-2003	vallison@xplornet.com
Winnipeg South Photo Club			

Club Websites

PRPA	www.prpa.ca/	
Central Alberta Photo Society	www.centralalbertaphotographicsociety.com	
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	

Competitions Chair Report

By Rella Lavoie

I would like to thank the host judging clubs for your time and work involved in judging the slide competitions as well as the new digital image competition which was held for the first time last fall.

Thanks to everyone who entered the competitions. By participating you have contributed to the vitality of the Prairie Region of Photographic Arts and provided other members with the pleasure of viewing your image. This creates discussion, new ideas and contributes to your personal growth as a photographer. Winning is a bonus!

SPRING PRINT COMPETITIONS

Although the groundhog has predicted six more weeks of winter, it is again time to be preparing for the PRPA Print Competitions. Your prints must reach the judging clubs by **April 15th**. You can save postage by sending them with your club representative to the spring executive meeting in Oyen on March 29th.

For those of you who wish to get an early start on your slide entries, the theme for the **2008 Russell Slide competition is Wide/Narrow**. The host judging clubs for the print competitions are as follows:

ATTANYI COMPETITION (Open)

Rosetown Photography Club
c/o Stan Hingston
Box 1177
Rosetown, Sask. S0L 2V0
306-882-2263

HUMAN PORTRAITURE COMPETITION

Gleneath Camera Club
c/o Alice Pritchard
176 Stewart Cres.
Kindersley, Sask. S0L 1S1
306-463-2555

VIRGINIA HAMPSON SPORTS IN ACTION COMPETITION

Caroline Clickers
c/o Dan Jahraus
RR#1, Alhambra. Alta. T0M 0C0
403-729-2172

GERRY FISH COMPETITION (Club)

Foothills Camera Club
c/o Gordon Hunter
715 Deercroft Way SE.
Calgary, Alta. T2J 5V4
403-271-4039

CURTISS LUND DIGITAL PRINT COMPETITION

Saskatoon Camera Club
c/o Maureen Sinclair
216, 4040A – 8th St. E.
Saskatoon, Sask. S7H 5L4
306-955-2373

WSPC DIGITAL IMAGE COMPETITION

(Spring)

Entries to be emailed (jpeg format preferred) or mailed on disc to:
Saskatoon Camera Club
c/o Maureen Sinclair
Address as above
maureen.sinclair@sasktel.net

All entry and judging forms are on the CD that each club received last year from Eldred Stamp. As they are general forms for all competitions, please fill out only the parts that pertain to the competitions that you are entering and/or judging.

Please read and follow the rules for PRPA Competitions 2007 that were sent to every PRPA member last fall. **Please note the changes that were made to the Gerry Fish Competition. The host judging clubs are responsible for bringing all print entries to the PRPA Outing June 6th-8th.** (Print stands would be greatly appreciated for display purposes)

All competition results should be sent to the Competition Chair as well as the Editor for publication in the Prairie Focus and the PRPA website.

Competition Chair:

Rella Lavoie
Box- 520 Kindersley, Sk. S0L 1S0
#8, 11464 – 132nd St.
306-838-4213

Message from the Chair

By Stan Hingston

It seems strange having the first word instead of the last in this issue!

As the newly elected Chair of PRPA I will continue to work to keep the association moving ahead. It seems there have been more changes in the last two years than in the past twenty!

I offer my support to all the Executive and Committee Chairs, especially those new to their positions: Rella (competitions), Pat (secretary), Gwen (treasurer/membership), Maureen (circuits), Wesley (newsletter) and Shirley (archivist). Come to think of it, that's nearly all of us! My thanks to each of you for jumping in to fill a needed position!

Thank you to those retiring from their stint on the Board and Committees: Wilma (Chair), Wesley (treasurer), Shirley (secretary), and the Deans (circuits). Your dedication over the past years has brought PRPA to where it is today.

Please hang in there with us as we continue our transition into the digital world.

Membership Report

By Gwen McNichol

This year the job of membership chair and treasurer has been combined into one and I am the lucky person to have been elected for this position. As of January 31 we have 88 members. We have several individual members as well as the following clubs with members: Caroline Clickers, Foothills Camera Club, Gleneath Camera Club, Northern Image Camera Club, Regina Photo Club, Rosetown Photo Club, Saskatoon Camera Club, Winnipeg South Photo Club and Wild Rose Camera Club. This year the Prairie Focus is being offered online at our website or in hardcopy. If anyone wishes to change their choice of hardcopy or online please contact me (see executive list). please contact me (see executive list).

Outing 2007 Competition

Report by Stan Hingston

Seven members entered at total of 35 photos in the 2007 PRPA Outing Competition. Four members entered 16 prints ; two entered 12 slides; and two entered 7 digital images. Only one member (Stan) entered in more than one format.

The low entries, especially in the slide and digital formats, were discouraging. There was no overlap in members entering the digital and slide competitions so eliminating either category would not likely have increased the entries in the other.

Because of the way the entries were distributed among the categories, all except four prints and one digital image received an award. This should encourage more members to enter next year!

Transparency Battle 2008

Report By Shirley Gerlock

May 04, 2008, open to the public, silver collection SaskTel Pioneer Building, following Pasqua Street North. You take the Pasqua street ramp from No 6 Hwy and go south until you cross 9th Avenue north. Regina. The SaskTel building is to your right heading south, and to the immediate left after you cross Donahue going north on Pasqua. There is a large parking lot to the west of the building. Deadline for the Clubs is March 28, 2008. NOTE: If the clubs wish to bring their slides to the meeting in Oyen on the 28th, I will take them to Regina. Entries by mail go to Delee Grant at our Box number 4501, S4P 3W7.

Slide and Print Circuits

Report by Maureen Sinclair

None of the circuits have gone out yet (January 2008). Between the strike at my work and problems with my home computer, I have just not been able to get them out for which I apologize. If a someone would be willing to give me a hand with them, it would be appreciated. I do not have the list of members for that circuit so have no idea who to contact. If you were on that circuit and have a copy of the list, or if you have the missing book, please call me immediately. I apologize for the delay in getting the circuits off the ground. There should still be time for one circuit before the Outing.

PRPA Annual General Meeting

September 29, 2007

Rusty MacDonald Library, Saskatoon

Report by Stan Hingston from minutes by Shirley Gerlock

This meeting was scheduled because of insufficient members to meet the 25 member quorum at the meeting held at Hitchcock's Hideaway in June. The quorum was met at this meeting with 29 members in attendance. President Wilma Gamble opened the meeting at 1:07 pm and thanked all who came. Clubs represented: Saskatoon (13), Regina (5), Northern Images (2), Rosetown (2), Wild Rose (2), CAPS (1), Gleneath (1) and Individual (3)

Shirley read the minutes from the June "Special General Meeting" at Hitchcock's. It was noted that Shirley is collecting archival material to preserve PRPA's history. Anyone with any historical documents should contact her. The Print Exhibition was officially discontinued. An offer by the Rosetown Museum to purchase the frames & crates for \$100 was accepted. A number of bylaw changes were passed.

8(a) The restrictions on number of PRPA members in a club for the club to be a PRPA affiliate was removed and the following was added: "In order to enter as a club in PRPA competitions the club must have at least the minimum number of PRPA members required for that competition".

8(b) Club Representatives must be PRPA members and will have full voting privileges at Board Meetings (formerly "Executive Meetings").

8(d) The quorum was changed from 25 to 11 for the AGM and Special General Meetings.

9 The Board shall be composed of the five Executive Officers (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Past Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer) together with other Committee Chairs and the Club Representatives of the affiliated clubs. The position of Membership Chair was discontinued and his/her duties are now the responsibility of the Treasurer. Three (3) of the Executive Officers, plus any committee chairs and club representatives in attendance, shall constitute a quorum at Board Meetings. The Treasurer's report by Stan showed \$690 in the Prairie Centre Credit Union, Rosetown checking account and \$3,732 in GICs in the Nipawin Scotiabank. A motion was approved to move the term deposits, on expiration, to a savings

account in the Rosetown Credit Union. A motion was passed for the Board to appoint two PRPA members, other than the Treasurer to review the association's accounts. This is in compliance with new government regulations, the alternative being to hire a Chartered Accountant. for 2006-2007 was 99. There were 28 paid members to date for 2007-2008. The membership fee was set to remain at \$20 for 2007-2008. Wesley's offer to take on the newsletter editor position in addition to the website was accepted. The June 2007 Outing at Hitchcock's, hosted by the Rosetown Photography Club, showed a \$42 loss, to be shared equally with PRPA. Changes to the competitions that were proposed at the SGM in June were approved. The new competition rules are posted on the website. The 2008 June Outing was announced for June 6-8 at Cypress Hills. The Gleneath Club's offer to host the Outing was enthusiastically accepted. A host club for 2009 is still needed. Laird Wilson of Regina and Len Suchan of Saskatoon volunteered to act as Powers of Attorney for PRPA.

The new slate of officers and committee chairs:

Chairperson – Stan Hingston
Secretary – Pat Derbowka
Treasurer/Membership – Gwen McNichol
Competitions – Rella Lavoie
Slide and Print Circuits – Maureen Sinclair
Newsletter Editor – Wesley Swan
Webmaster – Wesley Swan
Archivist – Shirley Gerlock

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

I have a Camera And not afraid to use it
Basic "Strategy Tips" to successfully Increase
Photography Customers awareness of you and
your photography business.

Report By Kamel Aquil

*Available Free on the PRPA Website
in the members area. Signup now*

September 29 Board Meeting

report by Stan Hingston
from minutes by Pat Derbowka

Following the 2007 AGM in Saskatoon, twelve members met at Tong's Wok restaurant for the first PRPA Board Meeting of the current year.

Executive Directors present: Stan Hingston (Chair), Rella Lavoie (Vice-Chair and Competitions), Wilma Gamble (Past Chair), Pat Derbowka (Secretary) and Gwen McNichol (Treasurer). Committee chairs, club reps and members attending: Maureen Sinclair, Shirley Gerlock, Mary Jacobs, Curtiss Lund, Mary Lund, Virginia McKenzie and Verna Allison.

Stan explained that these meetings, formerly referred to as "Executive Meetings" will now be known as "Board Meetings", as "Executive" refers only to the five elected positions.

Due to the recent changes in the bylaws and competition rules, the PRPA Handbook needs revision. To save the cost of printing, it was decided to publish the revised edition on the PRPA website in PDF format which can be downloaded and printed. As another cost saving measure, when the PRPA membership cards are used up, receipts only will be issued to each paid member and sent c/o the club reps when applicable. Rella reported that the Gleneath Club has offered to host the 2008 PRPA Outing to be held in Cypress Hills June 6-8. This offer was enthusiastically accepted by all. The next Board meeting will be at Oyen Alberta on Saturday March 29, 2008 at 1:00 pm Alberta time.

Adjourned at 7:00 pm. A delicious Chinese meal was enjoyed by all.



2008 Slide Competition Results

Everest Club Competition

Judged by *Winnipeg South Camera Club*
No Results Available

Russell Competition (Tidy/Untidy)

Judged by *Northern Image Photographers*

1. *Kathy Kutschera - Gleneath*
2. *Jean Harris - Gleneath*
3. *Gordon Hunter, Foothills*

Mabel Clark Traveling Salon Competition

Judged by *Regina Photo Club*
Wild Rose, Central Alberta Photo Society

1. *Trio At Rest - Marie Wilson, Regina*
2. *Young Great Horned Owl - Alice Pritchard
Gleneath*
3. *Dragon Fly - Ann Dies, Gleneath*
HM *Abraham Lake - Curtiss Lund, Wild Rose*
HM *Utah Country - Larry Easton, Regina*
HM *How Blue, How Yellow - Sharon Feschuk
Northern Image*

WSPC Digital Image Competition (Fall)

Judged by *Winnipeg South Photo Club*

1. *Seagull - Eldred Stamp, Wild Rose*
2. *Caterpillar 77 - Don Mathieson, Regina*
3. *Autumn's Flare - Kathy Kutschera, Gleneath*
HM *Toronto Skyline - Don Mathieson, Regina*
HM *Mountain Lake - Gordon Hunter, Foothills*
HM *Boat - Eldred Stamp, Wild Rose*



Board Meeting at Tong's Wok



2007 Outing Competition Results

Prints—Prairiescape

- 1 *Living on the Edge* Stan Hingston, Rosetown
- 2 *Untitled* [cabin] Alice Pritchard, Gleneath
- 3 *Cattle Country* Gwen McNichol, Rosetown

Prints—Waterscape

- 1 *Ripples* Stan Hingston, Rosetown
- 2 *Untitled* [boats] Verna Allison, Wild Rose
- 3 *Pelican Point* Gwen McNichol, Rosetown

Prints—Wildlife

- 1 *Untitled* [dragonfly] Alice Pritchard, Gleneath
- 2 *Dragonfly* Gwen McNichol, Rosetown
- 3 *Bird Haven* Gwen McNichol, Rosetown

Prints—Flora

- 1 *Untitled* [roses] Alice Pritchard, Gleneath
- 2 *Untitled* [mallow] Verna Allison, Wild Rose
- 3 *Lakeshore Tree* Stan Hingston, Rosetown

Slides—Prairiescape

- 1 *Old Farmstead* Jean Harris, Gleneath
- 2 *Wooden Skull* Shirley Gerlock, Regina
- 3 *Sunkin Hill* Shirley Gerlock, Regina

Slides—Waterscape

- 1 *Untitled* [boat] Jean Harris, Gleneath
- 2 *Hills and Water* Shirley Gerlock, Regina
- 3 *View from the Beach* Shirley Gerlock, Regina

Slides—Wildlife

- 1 *Avocet Habitat* Jean Harris, Gleneath
- 2 *Monarch on Lilac* Shirley Gerlock, Regina
- 3 *Pelicans at Rest* Shirley Gerlock, Regina

Slides—Flora

- 1 *Untitled* [anemone] Jean Harris, Gleneath
- 2 *Yellow Cacti* Shirley Gerlock, Regina
- 3 *Triple Pink* Shirley Gerlock, Regina

Digital—Prairiescape

- 1 *Trail to the Lake* Stan Hingston, Rosetown

Digital—Waterscape

- 1 *Riverhurst* Stan Hingston, Rosetown

Digital—Wildlife

- 1 *Swallowtail #1* Don Mathieson, Regina
- 2 *Swallowtail #2* Don Mathieson, Regina
- 3 *Living in Clover* Stan Hingston, Rosetown

Digital—Flora

- Last Rose of Summer* Stan Hingston, Rosetown

Outing Competition 2007

First Place Prints

- Top : Prairiescape - Stan Hingston*
- Middle: Waterscape - Stan Hingston*
- Middle: Flora - Alice Pritchard*
- Bottom Right: Wildlife - Alice Pritchard*



**Outing Competition 2007
First Place Slides**

*Top Left : Waterscape -Jean Harris
Middle Left: Wildlife -Jean Harris
Bottom Left: Prairiescape - Jean Harris
Top Right: Flora -Jean Harris*

Application for Membership in *Prairie Region of Photographic Arts*

I hereby apply for membership in the Prairie Region of Photographic Arts (PRPA).
Enclosed is my membership fee of \$20 (payable to "PRPA"). Memberships expire June 30.

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 ____

Prairie Focus will soon be available to members on the PRPA website in pdf format.

Please check your preference: ____ the website is sufficient for me; ____ I prefer a printed copy.

PRPA may publish a member list which is distributed to PRPA Board Members and Club Reps.

Date _____ Signature _____

Mail to: Gwen McNichol Box 2084, Rosetown, SK S0L2V0 306-882-2403 gwenanddale@sasktel.net

Group Of Ten Photography Club 2008 Amateur Photo Competition and Show

The **Group Of Ten** Photography Club was formed in 2005. We held our first Amateur Photo Competition and Show in 2006. Last year, the Group of Ten Photography Club's Second Annual Amateur Photo Competition and Show was a huge success. We awarded over \$2500 dollars in prize money and ribbons. We are only successful because of the generous support of community minded sponsors and submissions we receive from fellow photography enthusiasts. The prize money, the venue and the quality of submissions has made our competition one of the finest in Saskatchewan. Our Amateur Photo Competition and Show attracts competitors, visitors and sponsors from all over Saskatchewan. Last year **63 participants entered 316 photos**. The previous year's number of entries was 189. The majority of our entries were from Saskatchewan with a few from Alberta and BC. Photography is a hobby that anyone of any age can participate in. We encourage enthusiasts of all ages to become members of our club. We meet the third Wednesday of the month in Limerick. As a group, we strive to keep our event fresh and exciting. Our 3rd annual Amateur Photo Competition and Show will be held Tuesday April 22nd to Sunday May 4th, 2008 at the **Shurniak Art Gallery in Assiniboia**. We have nine categories with 1st, 2nd, 3rd and honorable mention awards with prize amounts of \$100, \$75, \$50 and ribbons.

Categories

It's all about the picture

Scapes - a scene, a view

People

Black and White

Open Plants

Multimedia - a 30 second commercial
using still images

Creative - anything goes

Youth - 18 and Under -open

Macro - larger than life

Animals

Black & White may be entered in any category

Our competition rules and entry form are available in the competition area of our new website. We have extended the Show to a thirteen day display at the amazing Shurniak Art Gallery in Assiniboia. This is our first year with a Multimedia category and we look forward to viewing the entries. The Multimedia entries will be displayed on a computer with Windows XP please make them. We look forward to your entries and hope to make this a very interesting competition and show.

Entry Dealine:

Drop off April 15th. - April 19th. At Noon
Mail In: April 17th.

Mail Entries to:

Group of 10 Photography Club
P.O. Box 1596
Assiniboia, SK. S0H 0B0

For information contact :

LaRene at 306-476-2296

LaRene@RockglenAgencies.com,

Bo at 306-263-4525

BoRuzicka@xplornet.com

Wanda at 306-476-2501

d.w.knoss@xplornet.com.

www.GroupOfTenPhotographyClub.com www.ShurniakArtGallery.com



March 29, 2008

Deadline for entries to Sask Amateur Photo Competition Regina Research Park, The Terrace Rotunda, 10 Research Drive University of Regina Campus April 04, 2008, Awards night, open to the public (free)

Contact: Heather Parkin – 1-306-585-0182



FRAME BY FRAME PHOTOFORUM

April 5 & 6, 2008

Ramada Hotel, Regina, SK

PRESENTED BY



Freeman Patterson



André Gallant



Dennis Fast



Larry Easton



Mufty Mathewson



Mike Sroka



George Webber



Cherie Westmoreland

**Early Bird
Weekend Price**
Before March 1, 2008
\$125.00
One Day Pass
\$75.00

For more information contact:
Bill: 306-757-3388 or 306-530-7352 (cell)
E-mail: shutterbugs@accesscomm.ca

**Authors' books
will be available
for sale**

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CLUB REPORTS

Rosetown Photography Club Report by Stan Hingston

At their November meeting, the Rosetown Photography Club had the best turnout in years with 13 members and guests attending. Membership now stands at 14 including 3 new members, of which 12 are PRPA members. The club's new digital projector, an Epson PowerLite 77 XGA (1024 x 768 pixels), was demonstrated at the November meeting and was put to good use in judging the digital part of the Outing Competition. We are very pleased with the color, clarity and sharpness of the projected images. "Volunteers" were appointed to prepare digital slide shows for the next few meetings. Creating a slide show can be as simple as dragging a number of image files into a folder and renaming (numbering) them in the order you want them to appear. The Rosetown Photography Club is hosting a digital photography public information evening on November 29. Representatives from Phase II Photographic Supplies in Saskatoon are coming out to talk about what to look for in choosing a digital camera for yourself or as a gift. Paul Cerniuk, one of the Club's new members is experienced in using Adobe Photoshop and will be conducting one or more workshops for members at future meetings, using the digital projector. The Club now has five photographic displays around Rosetown. In addition to the two exhibits in the Hallway Gallery downtown, we have prints hanging in the Heartland Health Region office, the Rosetown Library, and the Rosetown Museum. The Museum, which recently purchased the frames from the PRPA Traveling Exhibition, has asked the Photo Club to provide one new show each summer for their gallery. These exhibits will keep our club printer busy (not to mention our members). It's shaping up to be another busy and successful year for the Rosetown Photography Club.

Traveling Salon Competition 2007 Slides Left Page

First Place

Top Left : Fast –Randy Risdahl

Top Right: Waiting For A Start –Randy Risdahl

Second Place

Bottom Left: Fast –Peter Barthel

Bottom Right: Slow –Peter Barthel

Caps And WRCC Report by Curtiss Lund

I was surprised when the email from Shirley arrived, that both Wild Rose and CAPS were to judge the Traveling Salon, but memory fails me so not to argue. It is surprising how things work out sometimes. Shirley's email arrived at the first part of the 4th week of January. Our WRCC meeting was on Sunday the 20th, CAPS meeting was on Wednesday the 23rd. The slides arrived on Monday the 21st after WRCC meeting. Some frantic calls and quick arrangements and it all comes together for the better. It turned out that CAPS didn't have much planned for the meeting and were only to happy to have something arrive to do. That worked out well and then I thought why not invite members of WRCC to the CAPS meeting and have them judge while CAPS were judging. Worked out even better and was enjoyed by both clubs. CAPS used it to explain PRPA competitions and the judging techniques. Friday the 25th is my day off and I haven't even had the slides a week and both clubs have judged them and I did the paper work on the 25th with Mary's help. Sorry if all the paper work was not done for you Shirley as I have not got use to these new forms and haven't yet figured out what all has to be done. This being the Mabel Clark competition and not being the primary judging club, I wasn't sure how to tally up the records for your Club to do the total tally.

This season in both clubs has seen every member that I can think of buy into the digital era. A couple are still shooting some film but say that is getting less and less as they find the benefits of digital. What does this do for the slide competitions in PRPA? CAPS has taken their Slide Competition out of the Photographer of the Year Award and are allowing more digital work in the regular print competitions. WRCC is also being far more open to digital.

Please remember to signup on the Website to access the members area to be able to download and print the Prairie Focus

Frame By Frame Website
www.framebyframe.freewebsites.org

Foothills Camera Club Report

Report By Gordon Hunter

The biggest news for Foothill Camera Club members is the move from Fort Calgary to the Loose Moose Theatre. We now have more seats and gaze at a bigger screen. It has been a successful transition borne out by the membership hovering around the 170 mark. Another, more controversial, change is that while every image is scored, only those considered for ribbons have comments attached. There are so many entries that judges frequently labored until 1:00 a.m. to complete the judging. This meant that it was difficult to obtain judges. It is regretted that comments are not available, but this was a necessary change. A third change is the addition of a Master Photographer category for those in Division Three. To obtain this designation the photographer must achieve certain criteria, such as an average of 19 points on all competitions (if one misses a competition the average drops substantially), and must have demonstrated that he or she is an ambassador for photography to the wider community by teaching or providing presentations to others. Two people have achieved this designation. We are an active club. Our early move to digital photography attracted many new members who have excellent computer skills. The quality of images is very high in all divisions. We have also received remarkable presentations on such topics as wedding photography, using Lighthouse, lighting for portraiture and adventures of members. President, Ian Johnstone is key in these changes. He lives and breathes the club, chairing bi weekly meetings and monthly executive meetings. He attends judging sessions- he has created the software, and he is constantly managing and improving our website. We are also active in field trip events, doing flower shoots, trips to Lake O'Hara and to Heritage Park among others. Because Foothills Camera Club is so active and so few photographers are shooting slide film, the number of members of PRPA has dropped. We now have only five members. We applaud the addition of a web based competition and we look forward to competing in the print competitions.

Top Rated Photos

<http://www.topratedphotos.com>

Review by Stan Hingston

Jerry Crawford found this website recently and shared it with the Parkland Camera Club members.

Members of this website upload their photos with the twin objectives of showing off their work and hopefully selling a few images. Three levels of membership varies from Bronze (which is free) to Gold (\$51.99 a year).

The main feature is the Gallery of member photos which is divided into 60 subject categories. Select "Top Photos" from the menu and choose a category. Birds are always my favorite so I looked at them first. The photos start as generous thumbnails of about 2"x3" (on my computer screen) and enlarge to about 4x6. They are copy protected (I tested them!).

The "Shutter Skills" menu item opens a page with dozens of links to a great variety of free online photography tips and lessons at a level appropriate for beginners and intermediates.

This is just one of untold thousands of websites devoted to photography. If you have a favorite, send in a review to Wesley to share with the rest of us.

Webmaster Report

by Wesley Swan webmaster@prpa.ca

I have been busy updating the rest of last years images to the website. I have just received the winning images of the New Online Digital Competition, last years outing competition and some of last falls slide competitions and they will be up on the website soon. The new members area will include the Prairie Focus which is now available online. The handbook and bylaws will also be available in the members area, as well as other information which is available only to members. Members will have to signup online on the website to access this area. I am always looking for items to add to the website so if anyone has anything interesting which they would like to add please contact me at wswan@shaw.ca

An Invitation to the PRPA 2008 Outing

Report by Rella Lavoie

The Gleneath Camera Club is very excited to be hosting the 2008 P.R.P.A. Outing, June 6th-8th, in the *best kept secret* of Saskatchewan, the Cypress Hills. It is located in the southwest portion of our province and is Canada's first and only Interprovincial Park.

At 1436 m. above sea level, the park has the highest elevation in Canada east of the Rocky Mountains. The Cypress Hills cover about 1000 sq. miles on a plateau untouched by the erosion of a once giant glacier that covered most of the prairies 40 million years ago. A lush forest of lodge pole pines now remains, an oasis in the midst of the open prairie.

On the prairie or in the forest, you may spot moose, elk, deer, antelope, bobcat, coyotes or fox wandering the hills. In the spring, the meadows come alive with wild flowers and are home to some 18 species of orchids. Over 200 species of birds can be seen including the trumpeter swan, great blue heron and wild turkeys.

Whether you enjoy camping, bed & breakfast accommodations, or the luxury of a hotel room, the Cypress Hills offer a relaxing and tranquil setting to experience the sights and sounds of nature at its best.

The Cypress Park Resort Inn will be our headquarters for the weekend. A block of rooms has been reserved under PRPA and we urge you to book soon by calling **1-306-662-4477**. The hotel features an indoor swimming pool and hot tub and has cabins as well as condominiums for rent. For those who wish to camp you can phone Toll free: 1-306-662-5411. Reserve a Site: 1-800-205-7070; 1-306-662-5484. Park entry fees apply.

Other suggestions for accommodations are:
Spring Valley Guest Ranch (located 20 min. from the park) 1-306-295-4124; Owner Jim Saville
Sorensen's Bed & Breakfast (located just south of the park) 1-306-662-3434
Jack's Motor Inn (located in Maple Creek) 1-306-662-4431

We are presently in the planning stages for our program and are pleased to announce that Dr. Branimir Gjetvaj, who dedicates his photography work to promoting the appreciation and protection of natural environments, will be joining us for the weekend.

The hills are a photographer's paradise and whether you enjoy nature, history or the unique geological formations of the hills, we invite you to join us June 6th – 8th, 2008.

Registration forms will be sent to all clubs by April 1st.

The Last Word Editor Wesley Swan

Well this is my first issue as Prairie Focus Editor and I did not get off at a very good start. I would like to apologize for being late. I have Combined the Fall and Winter issue and made this issue a little bit bigger. I will however have the spring issue on time. The biggest challenge which I have had was getting reports. I know Stan must have had this problem. Please everyone when you have results available be send the on to me as well as images of Winning slides and prints so I will have them for the Prairie Focus. We have 14 Camera Club who belong to PRPA. I would like to have 4 reports for each issue. Could I please have clubs sent me in reports by the middle of March. Excluding the clubs which are in this issue.

Just remember Prairie Focus issues will be available for online in the members only area.

Prairie Focus Advertising Rates

The following rates are for B&W only
 contact Stan for quotes on color ads.

• Full page	\$60/issue	\$200/year
• Half page	30	100
• Quarter page	20	60
• Business card	10	30

Submission Deadlines for the Newsletter

Winter: January 15	Summer: May 30
Spring: March 15	Fall: September 15



Gerry Fish Competition

Farm House— Eldred Stamp –Top Left

Raindrops— Laird Wilson –Top Right

Thanks Sissy—Carrie Oliver Brown

Bottom Right

Attanyi Competition

Catch The Wind— Dawn McKenzie

Middle Left

Shirley's Goldfinch— Don Matheson

Middle Left

Strike One—Forrest Dodger

Bottom Left