



Prairie Focus

Prairie Region of Photographic Arts
 Volume 46 No. 3
 Spring 2006



Abraham Lake

by Alice Pritchard, Gleneath Camera Club
 Best Landscape Slide, 2005 Outing Competition

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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	
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Gateway Camera Club	Isabel Hill	780-475-2317	
Gleneath Camera Club	Sheila Keller	306-463-3940	
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Moose Jaw Camera Club	Sheina Wait	306-692-8218	
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Northern Image Photographers (PA)	Geoff Payton	306-922-3394	Geoff.Payton@shaw.ca
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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.winnipegssouthphotoclub.ca

A Message from your Chairperson

by Wilma Gamble

As spring approaches, I find myself anticipating, with some excitement, the fact that we will soon be able to go in search of spring flowers, watch for the return of birds, and be awed by the beautiful green hues that will cover our hills and fields. But before this happens, I always pull out my camera's manual to refresh my memory of its operation and the different functions available to me.

Also, I find myself reading a few of my favourite books for inspiration. I have many but probably my favourites and most read are three books by Freeman Patterson. "Photography for the Joy of It", Photography and the Art of Seeing" and Photography of Natural Things". They sometimes travel with me and around home are always close at hand.

Congratulations to all winners of the Everest, Russell and Travelling Salon slide competitions. Some wonderful images and a real challenge for us to take prize winning photos to have ready for next season's competitions. A big THANK YOU goes out to all the judging clubs and to everyone who entered the competitions. You make our organization what it is.

As a final word—and I will paraphrase a few noted photographers—when taking an image, always turn around 180 degrees to consider the view behind you. You will sometimes be amazed at what might have been missed.

Competition Chair Report

by Eldred Stamp

As this year's Outing fast approaches (to held in Saskatoon June 9-11) my workload increases: trophies to obtain, certificates to make, and competitions to tally and organize. I would like to thank all judging clubs for their contribution to PRPA and for presenting the competition results in a way I can use and record them. It makes my job easier in the time-constraints I have.

Before I forget, I hope to see you at the Outing and hopefully you will have a slide show to present to the members. It's a great time to show your pictures to others in the ten minute time-frame given for each person's presentation. Please let the Outing coordinator know that you will be entering by May 1.

Also, should you need information regarding the competitions, each club has a Competitions Handbook with all the necessary forms in it. These forms can also be found on our web site at www.prpa.ca

The slide show for last year is still on tour. If you haven't already seen it, look for it coming to your club soon.

Just a reminder, the Russell theme is "fast/slow" for this year (Fall 2006) and "tidy/untidy" for 2007 .

Hope to see you at the Outing. Your pictures will be a pleasure to see.

The Challenge Cup

report by Stan Hingston

The Rosetown Photography Club has challenged Foothills Camera Club for the coveted Challenge Cup. The theme is "abandoned", medium is prints, and deadline November 1, 2006. Gleneath Camera Club has kindly agreed to judge the competition.

Regarding the theme, my oldest brother Allen takes exception to people photographing and painting abandoned farm buildings and machinery. He believes that treating them as merely quaint artistic subjects is insensitive to the broken dreams of the farmers that once lived there.

In response to a photo (next page) of the old Hingston farmhouse (where my father was born in 1921 and we lived until I was 13) taken by my other brother Ross last spring, Allen composed the following poem. Anyone care to pen a rebuttal from the photographer's point of view?

Abandoned Farms

Photographers and painters seem to like abandoned farms:
Weather-beaten grain bins, gray houses and stone barns,
Wagon wheels, rusted trucks, discarded farm machines —
Can't people see the sadness of someone's broken dreams?

What farmer hasn't dreamed his farm would always
carry on;
Or children planned to farm the land, when it became
their own?
But quarrels, death or markets; hail, drought or early frost,
A dozen things take farm or farmer and the dream is lost.

Where people once planned next year's crops with hopeful
smile or laugh,
Another empty farm house stands, to paint or photograph.

Allen Hingston 2006

Print and Slide Circuit Results

by Chris and Jeanette Dean

Here are the results from the first round of the Print and Slide Circuits for 2005-6.

Print Circuit #1

- 1 Curtiss Lund *Showy Lady Slipper*
- 2 Dylan Nash *A Cossack's Lullaby*
- 3 Curtiss Lund *Killdeer*

Print Circuit #2

- 1 Heather Anderson *White on White*
- 2 Hazel Rauch *Sunrise*
- 3 Heather Anderson *Daughter of Ra*

Print Circuit #3

- 1 Eldred Stamp *Rachel*
- 1 Don Matheson *Rushes and Moon*
- 2 Eldred Stamp *Poppies*
- 3 Ted Senger *Table Top*

Print Circuit #4

- 1 Marlyn Toderan *Decorated Threshing Machine*
- 2 Mary Jacobs *Acia Tree at Sunset*
- 3 Marlyn Toderan *The Trinity*

Slide Circuit #1

- 1 Vern Sanders *Hafford Church*
- 2 Jean Harris *Church and Dorothy*
- 3 Mabel Elder *Mug Shot*
- 3 Alfred Hauk *Horse Power*

Slide Circuit #2

- 1 Wilma Gamble *Venus' Slipper*
- 2 Wilma Gamble *Concretion at Red Rock Coulee*
- 3 Wilma Gamble *Sheep River Falls*

Slide Circuit #3

- 1 Gordon Johnson *Reflection*
- 2 Gordon Johnson *Ruffed Grouse*
- 3 Curtiss Lund *Tree Frost*



Farm Sunset

by Ross Hingston, 2005
(see poem page 3)

2005 Outing Competition Results

Goldeye Centre, Nordegg, Alberta
Submitted by Verna Allison

The following prints and slides were selected by the judging panel of the host club Wild Rose. The first place in each category (10 photos) can be found on the cover of this issue. Numbers in [] refer to photo # on back cover; [FC] refers to front cover. Congratulations to the winners!

Print Competition

Landscapes

1. *Landscape* [1] Mabel Edler, Wild Rose
2. *Little Church on the Hill* Joyce Nelson, Moose Jaw
3. *Windy Point on Abraham Lake* Alice Pritchard, Gleneath

Goldeye Centre

1. *Goldeye Centre* [2] Eldred Stamp, Wild Rose
2. *Rain-filled Canoes* Alice Pritchard, Gleneath
3. *Goldeye Centre* Darlene McCullough, Parkland
HM Rooms Wesley Swan, Parkland

Historical

1. *Historical* [3] Eldred Stamp, Wild Rose
2. *Bricks Collecting Dust* Verna Allison, Wild Rose
3. *Rusty Rhythms* Joyce Nelson, Moose Jaw

Flora/Fauna

1. *Lonesome Pine* [4] Anne McIntosh, Parkland
2. *Flora/Fauna* Eldred Stamp, Wild Rose
3. *Mutant Evergreen* Joyce Nelson, Moose Jaw
HM Logs Mabel Edler, Wild Rose
HM *Venus Slipper* Curtiss Lund, Wild Rose

Candid Portrait

1. *In Focus* [5] Joyce Nelson, Moose Jaw
2. *Eldred* Curtiss Lund, Wild Rose
3. *Candid Portrait* Eldred Stamp, Wild Rose

Slide Competition

Landscapes

1. *Abraham Lake* [FC] Alice Pritchard, Gleneath
2. *Beginning of Abraham Lake* Jean Harris, Gleneath
3. *Abraham Lake* Rella Lavoie, Gleneath

Goldeye Centre

1. *Cabin Anyone?* [6] Mabel Edler, Wild Rose
2. *Idle in the Rain* Jean Harris, Gleneath
3. *Goldeye Centre* Darlene McCullough, Parkland

Historical

1. *Cable at Rust* [7] Dale McKenzie, Wild Rose
2. *Once Turned* Mabel Edler, Wild Rose
3. *The Hub* Virginia McKenzie, Wild Rose

Flora/Fauna

1. *Flora Overview* [8] Darlene McCullough, Parkland
2. *Lady Slipper* Mabel Edler, Wild Rose
3. *Three of a Kind* Wesley Swan, Parkland

Candid Portrait

1. *Candid Portrait* [9] Darlene McCullough, Parkland
2. *Serenity* Joyce Nelson, Moose Jaw
3. *Fearless Leader* Mabel Edler, Wild Rose

PRPA Executive Meeting, October 2005

report by Stan Hingston
from minutes by Shirley Gerlock

Rosetown Photography Club hosted the October 1, 2005, PRPA executive meeting in the Rosetown library basement where the club meets on a monthly basis. There were 12 members of the PRPA executive and club reps in attendance along with two guests from the Rosetown club and two from Regina.

A sheet of revisions to the PRPA Handbook is to be published and distributed to members in 2006 instead of reprinting it again. Eldred and Stan are to review the handbook and request suggestions from members through the newsletter.

Shirley Gerlock offered to get a quote from Office Depot in Regina for printing the newsletter. A motion was carried that if the quote is \$50 less than Economy Stationery that we get the newsletter printed there.

A website competition committee was formed with Wesley, Curtiss, Stan and Eldred to set up a trial competition on the website and to report at the April executive meeting. A digital competition similar to the Curtiss Lund Trophy print competition was suggested.

Wild Rose submitted a check to PRPA for \$768 for proceeds from the Nordegg Outing.

It was agreed to hold a secret mail-in ballot prior to the AGM to decide on the CAPA amalgamation proposal.

Prairie Focus back issues

I have extra copies of most of the newsletters that I edited. Contact me if you are missing any from your collection. Alternatively I am collecting older back issues (Volume 38 and earlier). If you are cleaning house, don't throw away that box of old PRPA material—bring it to the Outing and donate it to the PRPA archives.

Stan Hingston

CLUB REPORTS

Image West Photographic Association

report by Arlyne Lawson

Our club meets once a month on the fourth Tuesday with the exceptions of July, August and December. We have nine members as of February 2006.

In January 2005 we began planning for our centennial photographic options by inviting Kim Houghtaling, curator of the art gallery, to our meeting. He told us that a display in the gallery would be on an invitational and juried basis and that all photographic mediums (prints, transparencies, albums, etc) would be accepted.

Our Centennial display at the gallery took place in late August with a grand opening that featured wine and cheese and a walk-about with the artists. It was exhibited for a month with six of our members participating.

At our April meeting a member presented a slide show on the Yucatan Peninsula which was thoroughly enjoyed.

We held a photo outing at Saskatchewan Landing Provincial Park on June 5th, which at this time of year provided many opportunities for the creative photographer.

Only one of our members was able to attend the PRPA Outing at the Goldeye Center, near Nordegg, Alberta.

A lottery grant enabled us to purchase a slide projector, screen, light table and a quantity of slide film. Each member received a roll of film with the instruction that it be shot at a place where he or she had not been before.

Two of our members attended the Camera Canada College in Regina in September. They gave our club a comprehensive report on the presentations, workshops and tours that they had participated in.

Once again one of our members is teaching a photography class at the community college.

(Continued on page 6)

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 (payable to "PRPA") of \$20.00 (\$10 if applying between January 1 and the June Outing). I understand that 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

We enjoyed viewing the PRPA slide sets of the best of the Russell, Everest and Travelling Salon competitions. Many members attended Courtney Milne's "Luminous Landscapes" show in October at Swift Current.

We are now looking forward to the photo opportunities that the forthcoming season will offer.

Regina Photo Club

Report by Shirley J Gerlock

As of March 7th we have 110 members from Regina & surrounding area and one from Alberta. We are currently getting ready for the SaskAmateur competition in April.

There have been interesting presentations received from members on hand colouring, photo preservation, images from ghost towns, Moose Jaw Airshow, Ukraine, Scotland and one of a collage of digital images, showing what her 4.0 camera would do.

Some members meet on a Saturday morning for coffee, then go on a photo shoot around town or in the country, then display their images at the next meeting.

Northern Image Photographers

Report by Geoff Payton

The past year has been extremely busy for a club of 30 people. Displays are ongoing at the Victoria Hospital cafeteria, the Palliative Care Unit, the Senior's Heritage Centre, the South Hill Mall, as well as a restaurant in neighboring Birch Hills. All displays are rotated every 8 weeks; some 60 – 70 photos are on display at any given time. In December and January we displayed the PRPA prints at the South Hill Mall.

Throughout the warmer months, club members got together often for various outings including Waskesiu and P. A. National Park, to a nearby ranch to shoot newborn foals, and several Centennial events such as Canoe Quest.

June 2005 saw one of our "best ever" Weekend in the Woods at Piprell Lake in northern Saskatchewan. About 15 members took part in the 3-day outing, traveling through many areas in Narrow Hills Provincial Park, photographing from the top of a glacial esker, shooting cross foxes from our doorstep, and were led to an eagle's nest where we watched (and shot!) the adults feed the young.

In September we held Weekend in the Woods #20 at Sandy Lake in the National Park. Slide shows, equipment demonstrations, plentiful food, and social and photographic opportunities again produced truly memorable results. Weekend in the Woods #21 will be held June 9, 10, and 11 (they have been held on the second weekend in both June and September for 11 years now) at McPhee Lake, just outside the park's eastern edge.

Monthly meetings continue to be well-attended, with scheduled presentations on everything from time-honoured equipment and techniques to the latest in digital photography. A monthly assignment for members is reviewed, on print, slide or digital. Coffee meetings are also held monthly. At our last meeting, we selected our slides for the upcoming Transparency Battle, which we hope to attend with at least a dozen members.

As a community group, we participate with other organizations in various ways. In July our club annually organizes and judges the P.A. Exhibition photography competition. Our club provides the photography for the Relay for Life each year. As well, we had an "insider's" tour of the Historical Museum, where some of our members volunteer. Several club members worked at the recent Canadian Challenge, a sled dog race from Prince Albert to La Ronge and back, in conjunction with either P.A. North Search & Rescue, or the Lakeland Amateur Radio Association. We are involved with the P.A. AeroModellers in an upcoming event to showcase the many different types of clubs in the area. Previously, we have also had joint BBQ/photo opportunities with the Northern Waters Fly-fishing club, and presented slide shows to their club.

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Webmaster Report

by Wesley Swan webmaster@prpa.ca

Report not available this issue.

Photo Resolution for E-mail & Web

by Stan Hingston

When sending photos by email just for viewing on a computer screen, you need to reduce the file size first. There are two ways to do this: a) reduce the size of the image and b) reduce the quality of the image. Note: if you are sending a photo file for someone else to print, send as big a file as you can (see my article in the last issue).

First reduce the size to that which will fit on their screen. Using Photoshop click *Image > Resize > Image Size*. *Resample Image* needs to be checked. Set the upper width setting to 750 pixels. I find this is a good size for viewing in my Outlook Email program viewing pane. This will reduce the file size to a manageable 100-200 kb size.

To reduce the file size further, next use the *File > Save for Web* function. This will reduce the file size by about 75% while leaving the image size the same and only slightly reducing the visible quality (eg a 200 kb file will become about 50) Note: using this function before resizing will not make any difference to file size or quality, so do it in this order.

For photos to insert in a web page, first decide on what size on the screen they are to be viewed. For full screen viewing use 1280 pixels wide or 960 high; for smaller size calculate accordingly (eg for 1/4 screen use 320 x 240). Resize the photo to this size and then use *Save for Web* as above. Finally use *File > Save As* and rename with an E (for email) or W (for web) after the name to identify them.

Clara Hume (1914 - 2006)

Clara, wife of Clare Hume, passed away March 18, 2006, at 91. Among Clara's many accomplishments was her painting. She started painting as a child and studied many different art forms at the Technical School and at the U of S. She was particularly noted for her detailed acrylic paintings of prairie wildflowers and grasses, and prairie landscapes. A celebration of Clara's life will be held April 22 at the Saskatoon Funeral Home. Clare Hume (1909-2004) was a long time member of the Saskatoon Camera Club and the namesake of the Transparency Battle trophy. See Winter 2005 *Prairie Focus* for Clare's obituary.

Print Competitions Deadline Error

I apologize for any confusion caused by the printing in the last issue of the Print Competition deadline as April 1. It should have been, as it always has, April 15. The deadline for getting your prints to your club rep to take to the spring executive meeting would have been a day or so prior to April 1, but you have to the 15th to mail them.

Stan Hingston, editor

The Last Word

Editor Report by Stan Hingston

Surprise! One obvious change with this newsletter and a few not so obvious.

This is the first issue on regular size paper instead of the neat little booklets that we have had since sometime before Sheina took over as editor about 1997. Here is the story: The rates were going up at the Rosetown printshop—Economy Stationary—where I have been getting the newsletters printed, so I did some number crunching and bought my own color laser printer—a Samsung CLP 510. The ads said it would take up to 14" paper but didn't say you had to buy an expensive attachment. So my preferred solution was to change the format.

I won't know the exact cost until I see how many copies I get with the toner cartridges, which should happen during the printing of the Summer issue. For now I am charging the same rate as quoted by the Saskatoon Office Depot, \$1.70 + tax per copy for an 8 page issue with color covers. It may work out to be less.

One advantage of the change is that I now only have to add pages by twos instead of fours which makes it easier to fit everything in and fill the pages. Another is that B&W photos (including ads) can be inserted anywhere at no extra cost. Also, by doing all the printing myself I can easily print more copies later as needed so there is little advantage in making extra copies at the time of printing.

A disadvantage (to me anyway) is that I am back to doing the copying and stapling myself (a not so obvious change, I hope). I don't mind the work though as it gives me more control over the finished product.

Another not so obvious change in the newsletter is the loss of the Konica Minolta ad. When I tried to contact them about renewing for another year, I learned that the company has gone out of photo equipment. Apparently a victim of the digital revolution. Can any of you help find a replacement advertiser?

I just learned (after printing 150 copies of page 2) that Janice has resigned as PRPA rep for Foothills—watch for her replacement in the next issue. Any other changes or additions to the club website list or the club representative's contact information on page 2?

The Outing information and registration forms are printed on colored paper for easy identification and attached at the back for easy removal of the page to send in.

I am missing three issues from the Editor's archive collection: 41(3) with winter combine photo on the cover; 41(4) with the snowbank photo cover; and 43(1) Noel's issue. If you have an extra of any of these you would like to donate, please bring them to the Outing. Thank you!

Submission Deadlines for the Newsletter

Winter: January 15

Summer: May 30

Spring: March 15

Fall: September 15



**Outing Competition
2005 Winners**

See page 4 for complete list of winners, categories, titles and photographers. Numbers on photos refer to numbers in [] in winners list.

