



In Focus

The Newsletter for Durham's Photographic Community

ISSUE #87

MAY/JUNE 2022



Remember When...? By Nancy Coffey

**INSIDE THIS
EDITION**

Cover Image	1	ACC 2021-22 Winners	6
From the President	2-3	Feature Photographer -	7-9
Front Page Photo	3	Harun Khan	
Our Editorial Musing	3	Maintaining Quality Judging -	10-12
President's Award		There's Got to Be More Part 2	13-16
2021-2022 -	4	Meet Heather Colasuonno	17-18
OCC Competition		Chillin' Out in Moron, Cuba	19
Lifetime Achievement	5	Parting Shot	20
Recognition			

FROM THE PRESIDENT

~ SHARAD TEMBE ~



It's hard to believe that my tenure as OCC President is coming to an end. Since the last live meeting held March 11, 2020, we have managed to cope with Covid and refine our online delivery of the program. Virtual meetings have been difficult for many members; however, we were left with no other option.

The Annual General Meeting held on April 27 highlighted the club's accomplishments this year and provided members with plans for the upcoming season. I credit the club's accomplishments to a very diligent and dedicated group of volunteers. Thank you to all the volunteers who have devoted considerable time and effort to ensure another very successful year!

Two executive members will be completing their tenure at the end of May. We sincerely appreciate the contributions made by Nina Kirienko as Program and Education Director for the past three years and Kathy Braznick as Community Liaison Director for the past two years. We heartily welcome Dwayne Ducommun as our new Program and Education Director and Ian MacCready as our new Community Liaison. They will be great additions on next year's Executive with John Madill as President.

The OCC 2022 Annual Photographic Exhibition was again a great success! For the second year in a row, this virtual event showcased members' photographic talents. This year's Photo Ex was enjoyed by many members, friends, family and guests. Thank you to Kathy Braznick and the Planning Committee for organizing another very successful event.

A record number of entries were submitted in this year's ACC! Congratulations to all participants and award winners. I am elated with the quality images submitted by several new members. Please refer to page 6 for all the ACC winners and access the Website's Competition Results for a closer look at all award-winning images.

The Oshawa Camera Club continues to be one of the most progressive clubs in Ontario! It's important to recognize that the club's success has been due to our members' participation, support, and enthusiasm. Volunteerism is necessary and we encourage members to offer their management, organizational, or technical skills. I would urge you to get involved by stepping forward and contributing to the future of this great camera club!

Over the past two years, the Executive Committee has been involved in making several crucial decisions. I sincerely thank all Executive members for their commitment and dedication. In addition, I've appreciated the support, advice, and encouragement received from several members including Past Presidents and former Executive members.

President's Message continued

It has been an honour to serve as President on the Executive committee.

Next season, I will again be leading the First Steps Group and serve as the O3C Rep. I look forward to supporting next year's Executive under the strong leadership of John Madill. The first meeting of the 2022-2023 club season will be held on September 14.

In the meantime, I'm looking forward to some R & R, camping holidays with our travel trailer, and of course, photography! Enjoy your summer everyone and be sure to take lots of photos that you share with family and friends.

F RONT PAGE PHOTO ~ Nancy Coffey



I went to Toronto the week after Monique Campbell's presentation at an OCC Meeting. I was so inspired by her talk that I was much more aware of people to photograph. I usually wait until people get out of the way, but this time I was looking for situations. I photographed a lot of people that day and this image is one of my favourites.



Remember when...?

Settings: Panasonic G9, 14-140 mm Vario lens at 55 mm, f10, 1/60 sec, ISO 400

O UR EDITORIAL MUSINGS



When we began our journey as your co-editors of "In Focus", our goal was to introduce you to many of our members. It was a pleasure to showcase their varied talents, styles, and ambitions. We hope you enjoyed the results.

Many thanks to all of our contributors. Your articles and images were greatly appreciated. All the best for a wonderfully warm summer. Happy shooting, everyone!.

From the Co-editors,

Christine Andrews and Karen Martin.

**Congratulations to Nina Kirienko,
Program & Education Director – 2019 - 2022**



- Secured a total of 26 inspirational and educational speakers – many elite, professional photographers from outside GTA
- Introduced several new club initiatives: 9 SIG groups, Virtual Lunch Hour with friends, winning image reviews, relaunched club Facebook page and introduced Photo Quests
- MCed all virtual meetings and methodically resolved issues as they arose
- Always professional, humble, and enthusiastic in conducting meetings – we applaud your efforts!
- Nina also joined the O3C Executive team 2 years ago
- Networked and assisted Program Directors across Ontario to provide best practices
- Valuable contributor to OLIS – Online Information System
- Established a “new & improved” Speakers Registry for booking speakers

Your hard work, dedication, and attention to detail over the past 3 three years as OCC Program Director and the contributions made to the O3C have been appreciated by all club members and Program Directors across Ontario.

The OCC Competition Lifetime Achievement Recognition

by Norm Ullock

The OCC Competition Lifetime Achievement Recognition is our way of honouring OCC members who have grown their skills as photographers and shown they can consistently produce top quality images. We have collected all the points our top scoring members have earned from OCC club competitions back to 2011, the first year that we have complete records.

The names on the plaque are in order beginning with the highest number of points at the top. Hopefully, publishing the plaque will be an incentive for newer members to set a goal to have their name added to this plaque.

We currently publish five levels of recognition which are the 9,000, 8,000, 7,000, 6,000 and 5,000 plus lifetime points. We also wish to recognize members who have achieved an incredible 900 plus points in one year. The number in brackets beside their name shows the number of times they have exceeded 900 points in a year.

The plaque is updated annually after the ACC results are published. It can be viewed anytime at [OCC Lifetime Achievement Recognition Plaque](#)



Annual Club Competition (ACC) - 2021/22 Awards

	Pictorial	Nature General	Nature Zoology
1 st Place Masters	Todd Murrison	Helene Ullock	Stephen Wright
2 nd Place Masters	Linda Cresswell	Norm Ullock	Peter Clute
1 st Place Standard	Dianna Cronin	Harun Khan	Leola Durant
2 nd Place Standard	Jennifer Burrows	Bonnie Cutten	Jane Rail
	Creative	Architecture	Portraits
1 st Place Masters	Todd Murrison	Helene Ullock	Norm Ullock
2 nd Place Masters	Helene Ullock	Linda Cresswell	Nick Janushewski
1 st Place Standard	Chantal Sammons	Darcy Ste. Marie	Dianna Cronin
2 nd Place Standard	Stephen Gostlin	Dianna Cronin	Chantal Sammons
	Scapes	AT - Food & Drink	
1 st Place Masters	Moira Fenner	Randy Nickerson	
2 nd Place Masters	Helene Ullock	Stephen Wright	
1 st Place Standard	Harun Khan	Jane Rail	
2 nd Place Standard	Darcy Ste. Marie	Chantal Sammons	
ACC Best in Show Masters	Todd Murrison “Manhattan on the Rocks”		
ACC Best in Show Standard	Dianna Cronin “Time to Myself”		
Diversity Award Masters	Norm Ullock		
Diversity Award Runner-Up Masters	Helene Ullock		
Diversity Award Standard	Janet Taylor	Chantal Sammons (tie)	
Diversity Award Runner-Up Standard	Jane Rail		
General Competition Achievement Standard	Janet Taylor “Quality Meats”		
ACC 2021/22 Winner	Norm Ullock	Helene Ullock (tie)	
ACC 2021/22 Runner Up	Moira Fenner	Todd Murrison (tie)	
POTY 2021/22 Winner	Norm Ullock		
POTY 2021/22 Runner-Up	Moira Fenner		
Rising Star	Jane Rail		



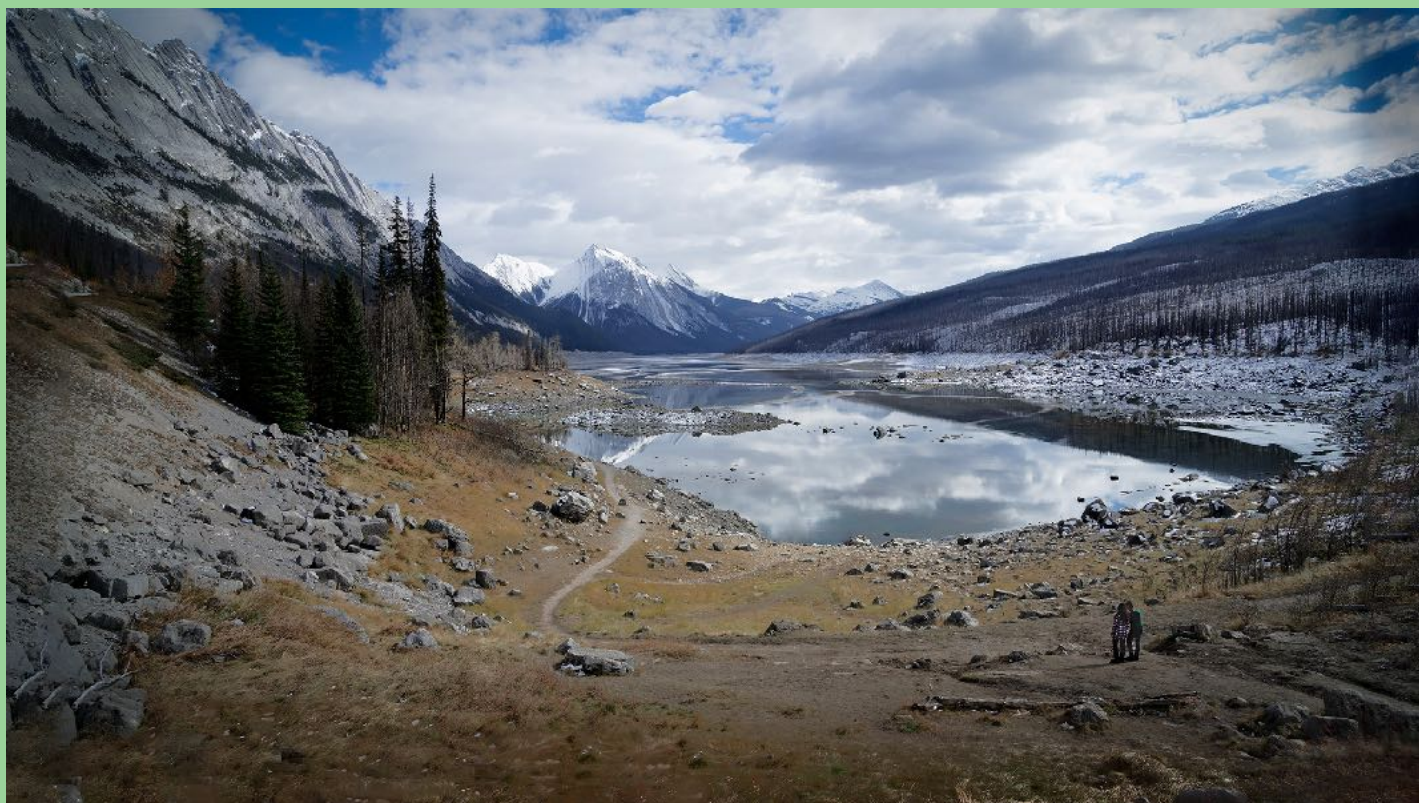
FEATURE PHOTOGRAPHER

~ **Harun Khan** ~



What inspired you to begin photography?

I am inspired by the pleasing or painful fleeting moments spent with a subject that gives me instant joy or sorrow connecting me to Mother Nature and its creations. I enjoy capturing these unforgettable moments through photography.



Medicine Lake

A7R3, FE 24-80 mm @ 24 mm ISO 100, s/s 1/100th sec, f/71.

What excites you about photography?

I am excited about conveying the emotions observed in nature, people, or animals through powerful images.

Do you have a favourite genre?

What do you like about this type of photography?

Landscapes.

Here the foreground, midground, and background vanish into infinity, blending with the sky. This creates a profound depth.



Rattlesnake Canyon

A7R3, DT 17-40 mm @ 20m, ISO 3200, s/s 1/60th sec, f/4

Feature Photographer Harun Khan

What do you like about the Oshawa Camera Club and what would you like to learn?

OCC is one of the best camera clubs in Ontario. I like to learn new skills and share experiences through field trips and discussions.



A Place to Relax

A7R3, EFS18-55 mm @18 mm, ISO 200, s/s/ 1/125th sec, F/11

You can follow Harun in the following social media accounts: [500px.ca](https://www.500px.ca), Flickr, Instagram



Let me Survive,

A7R3, FE100-400 mm @ 400 mm ISO 6400 s/s 1/600th sec f/9



What Happens after I Upload Images for Oshawa CC Competitions?

~ Norm Ullock ~

Many of our OCC members compete in our five club competitions. They may not know about what goes on behind the scenes after they upload their images to be judged. Here's how the Oshawa Camera Club and the O3C, (Ontario Council of Camera Clubs), provides you with quality judging and why it continues to improve each year.

Moira Fenner, our Competitions Director, has a Competition Committee of five people that prepare our OCC website so you can upload your images for judging. We collect, vet, and setup the images for three non-Oshawa CC judges and any guest judges-in-training, (JIT's), to score and comment on our images.

There is also a team of four other OCC members that produce the quality AV shows that report the results and comments from our judges. By the time you see the competition results shows, there have been ten OCC people and three O3C Judges who have worked for several hours to make it happen. Everyone has a specific job which can be done by more than one of us, in the event of an absence.

When the images are ready for judging, they are evaluated and scored with comments using an O3C product called Entry Wizard. The three judges work independently online at home. Our OCC Competition Committee use numerous tools to monitor the quality of the judging and provide feedback to our judges to ascertain how well they followed the accepted O3C scoring model. This feedback acts as a continuous learning tool for our judges to improve their expertise over time. We initiated a program in 2015 to recruit and train new Judges in Training (JITs). These people are accepted to enter our O3C New Judge Training program only after they have demonstrated a desire to help other photographers and have a portfolio of successful, diversified award-winning photographs. They participate in a training program that takes about two years before they are awarded the O3C Judge accreditation.

Once accredited, they judge your images in competitions. It takes each judge about eight hours of volunteer time to evaluate, score, and comment on a competition with 250 images. Our OCC Annual Club Competition last year had about 640 images.

The judges do not know who the image makers are. Judging is hard work. It takes time to think about how to tell you what you did well in an image and how to improve it. To craft a quality comment that encourages and helps image makers is very time consuming and requires a skill to do it well.

All of our Judges and JIT's are incredibly dedicated people who really wish to help you up your game for making art. And yes, like all people, they all make mistakes occasionally because they are human. That is one reason why we use three judges. Some of our judges work all day then come home and work for you on your images until bedtime. So, if after a stressful day at work they could score an occasional image two points higher or lower than the scoring model adherence would suggest. But the other 90 plus percent of their scores are accurate.

After the judging is complete, judges receive feedback in the form of a scoring analysis with analytics on their own scores and their fellow judges scores. If there was a JIT, their data is also included. They also have "view only" access to the images when they review the results. They can see for themselves where improvement may be necessary when warranted and our judges appreciate this feedback. This is all a far cry from the past system where a judge was created by a "tap on the shoulder" and there was no required competency of the person even to be a decent photographer. Also, there was no feedback after they judged for a club. No one knew if they were doing a decent job as there was no real scoring model.

Is our system working? If you compete, are you a better photographer now than you were two or three years ago? Our system is not perfect. It is just better than what anyone else is doing. Today, the Oshawa Camera Club has eleven Accredited O3C Judges, more than any other camera club in Ontario. They are more than willing to offer constructive criticism to fellow members prior to submitting their images to competitions.

How did we arrive at high quality judging for our member clubs and image makers?

In 2014, I spearheaded a review of the O3C, (then GTCCC), judging process. The work was done by three experienced OCC judges and myself which then led to a presentation to the O3C Executive in 2015. As a result, the Oshawa CC's competition judging became the standard for the O3C and its' member clubs.

In 2015-16, Bharat and myself developed and taught a Judge Training Course. In 2016-17, this was a mandatory course for all judges who wished to obtain O3C judge accreditation. We also put tools in place so that judges would get feedback on how well they adhered to the O3C scoring model when evaluating our images. Entry Wizard was adopted as the gold standard for judging online, by the majority of our member clubs.

In 2019, the data gathered from the use of our tools across many clubs was reviewed to see what we do well and where we needed to improve. We were constantly in touch with judges, judges-in-training, Competition Directors, Club Presidents, and image makers. My presentation called "Competition and Judging, an Evening with the Judge Chair" was presented to many of our member clubs about how our judging process works and how image makers can easily improve their work.

How did we arrive at high quality judging for our member clubs and image makers ?

~Norm Ullock (continued)

I have received great input from all of these sources about what we are doing well and what we can still improve upon. We collected this input on what we had learned since 2015 for a period of two years and made conclusions about what the results were telling us. We then reviewed our conclusions with some of our best judges and some of our most experienced Competition Directors. Only after they told us our conclusions were exact did we finalize and deliver our 2021-22 Refresh Training Course.

The results of this two-year project is an O3C Judges and JIT's refresh course that all our judges must take to remain accredited O3C Judges. All of our Judges and JIT's have attended this refresh program by March 20, 2022. We have received very positive feedback on this program.

The O3C has a competition and judging system that is world class. Third parties have told us that what we have in O3C is unique and achieves a level of excellence that is not available elsewhere in the world. Nowhere else are there processes and measurements as a way to acquire judging accuracy.

Norm Ullock
Member OCC Competition Committee
O3C Judge Chair



SHAWA CAMERA CLUB INFO

*Members of the Oshawa Camera Club meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. from September to May, at the Woodview Club, located in Oshawa at 151 Cadillac Avenue North, between King and Adelaide.

Visitors are always welcome at our regular meetings.

*For the safety and security of our club members during COVID, all meetings are currently being held using videoconferencing.

This newsletter would not be possible without the time and effort put in by a talented team of writers and photographers.

I hope you enjoy this newsletter. If there is a topic you would like us to explore, please email us at: **newsletter@oshawacameraclub.ca**



THERE'S GOT TO BE MORE (Part 2) ~ Vern Mossey ~

During a recent presentation by Nevada Weir, which by the way, was superb, I kept thinking that many of her images would make outstanding prints. In a similar vein, often while judging, I have remarked that a particular image was worthy of a print.

Why did I feel this way? What were the characteristics of an image that would evoke this feeling? Why is a projected image different from a print?

Almost everyone has had the experience of standing before what I like to call a "grand landscape". The Grand Canyon is a good example. Somewhere deep inside we know that the image we are about to capture, using all the skills and tools available, will never replicate the emotion or feeling being experienced at that moment.

This image was taken at Dante's View overlooking the salt flats in Death Valley, California. What you see is about 64 km's (40 miles) to the horizon at an elevation of 1 500 metres (5, 000 feet) above the valley floor. It was our first view of Death Valley and will be forever emotionally embedded in our memories.

That evening I wrote in my journal:

"...there are no words to describe the landscape that spread out before us, with the early morning light just adding the accents to knolls and peaks as if God himself had orchestrated the performance. It was quite simply magnificent. The combination of the North Fork Pass, Tombstone Mountain, and the Blackstone River stretched out before us in a tapestry of colour that has been unrivalled in my lifetime. When we reached the summit, we were emotionally spent."



© Vern Mossey

Dantes View
Death Valley, California

The words were able to express the emotions of the moment; a projected image could not. A print is the best alternative.

Leif Petersen, our current printing master, has provided some additional insight.

"Viewing a print is a little like reading a good book...you wonder what the characters are doing while you're not reading it. With a landscape print, I wonder what's going on there now. How does it look in another season? How has it changed? The story continues and I wish I was there to see the changes. How often have we looked at a photo we've taken of a person and wondered what they're doing, what's new in their life, are they healthy?

For example, from my first trip back to Norway in 1983, I was driving to the village where I was from. We came around a turn near the top of the mountain and the vista looking down into the valley, the ocean, and a particular mountain that looked like it was rising out of the ocean blew my mind. I remember thinking, "Now I can understand why my Mom and Dad moved back here." Every time I take that drive, I think of them and must stop to get another shot. I've printed every one of them."



©Leif Petersen

Hagskar

What each of these three images demonstrates is a strong personal expression of a unique emotional moment.

How then are we best able to re-create this emotion felt at the moment of capture, the feeling that "I was there"?

Bangor University in Wales and Temple University in the United States, have both published studies on the sense of touch, called Haptics, which believes that objects we feel will produce a greater emotional response. Neuromarketing research expands on that to show that paper-based content has a greater influence on our brain triggering a more emotional response and better memory recall. Science clearly shows paper can have a larger impact and be more memorable than digital.

To reinforce this point of view I wonder, how many of us have ever heard of someone selling a projected image? How many prefer reading a library book to reading a tablet? How many prefer looking through a family album to viewing a slide show?

There's Got to be More Part 2 ~Vern Mossey

In my original article, "There's Got to Be More", (Published in the OCC September/October 2021 #83 newsletter), I ended with the comment:

"Yes, there is "more" than craftsmanship to photography. The enjoyment of our hobby begins with the achievement of technical success and progresses with time and experience into an ability, through your photographs, to communicate a part of yourself."

A projected image creates a feeling of a fleeting moment in time. Deep down we sense a lack of permanence. We know that another image will soon follow. While a projected image is the best method to share with a larger audience, it is by its very nature, impersonal.



Blackstone River Valley
Yukon, Canada

The Yukon near the Tombstone Mountain campsite is the location of this image.
(Both were taken on trips with OCC members).

By contrast, a printed image emotionally sends a message to the viewer that the image matters - it is special. It is of such appeal that the maker has deemed it to be worthy of considerably more effort. It is very personal to the maker.

Each of us has hundreds of digital images, each waiting to burst from our monitors onto our walls. To make the best of both world's, take up the challenge. What better way to express your emotions and share your talents than to transform the images on your hard drive into a print.

Here are a few examples: Visualize your reaction to a projected image vs. a print.



©Vern Mossey

Valley View Memorial Gardens



©Vern Mossey

Nicole



Mouet Reflections

©Vern Mossey



Zabriskie Point at Sunrise

©Vern Mossey



Mozarts Grave

©Vern Mossey



Meet Heather Colasuonno ~ Recipient of the Bill Peel Education Bursary

I love how I can capture or create a moment through photography and create different moods with different lighting techniques. I would like to practise more with product photography lighting techniques. My plans after graduation are to pitch my work as much as I can and gain as much experience as possible. I post some of my work on Instagram at @heatherlynnephotography. My web page is heatherlynnephotography.ca.



Meet Heather Colasuonno continued





Chillin' Out in Moron, Cuba

~ Tommie Sue Montgomery ~

At Cayo Coco, Cuba for Christmas week, we did a day tour to Ciego de Ávila, the provincial capital, and Morón, a smaller colonial-era city where we had only a 20-minute stop at the main plaza. Thirty metres from the bus, we came upon the two young men seated on the bench and struck up a conversation. I asked about COVID. They said everyone was vaccinated and everyone wore masks. (They had theirs off). One of them pulled out his wallet and extracted a small form on which were recorded his four vaccinations. The other two guys wandered up and joined the conversation, but soon thereafter the tour guide called us to return. I managed to grab a couple of shots before we were left behind. I thought it was hilarious that the one fellow wore a Blue Jays shirt.



*Fuji X-T3 with XF 18-55mm zoom @ 18mm
F5, 1/200 sec, ISO 400*



PARTING SHOTS

~ Eileen Nixon ~

This photo was taken on April 4, 2022, at the Pine Ridge Memorial Gardens at the cemetery in Ajax. There are waterfalls, ponds, and scenic walks there with plenty of photo opportunities.

I was fascinated by the swans there, washing the fish before they ate them. I always thought swans only ate vegetation. Actually, swans eat small fish, frogs, and worms. It was a great learning experience!

“Washing Dinner”



*Sony NEX7 (RX10IV) mirrorless camera w/50 mm lens
Settings: ISO100, F8, 1/400th sec*