



Latow in Focus

JANUARY 2011

Up Front with Toni

Toni Browning, President

Once again we had a fabulous potluck dinner with outstanding food. A big thanks to Georgia for organizing this. There were over 65 members and guests.

On December 14 we had two groups running. Don Mallory had a full house for this black and white group with guest speaker Michael Dowdall. Several new members attended. Arthur, Mike and Wayne ran a studio group on more portrait lighting techniques. There were about 25 members present.

On February 22 we will again be running two groups. For details, please check the program brochure on the Latow website.

At our January 4th meeting, we will have the evaluation results. I know Virginia and her committee had their judging already.

In all the above events, there is lots of work involved. Thanks to everybody.

Fireside Exhibitions: Latow members can exhibit in the Fireside Gallery in July, August, September and October. You can do a show by yourself or with someone else. We will be drawing names for 2012 in February, so if you are interested please let me know ASAP.

BAC Committees: Each committee (Kaleidoscope, Arts Burlington, Christmas Sale, Festival of Fine Arts etc.) requires two members from each guild. If you are interested, please let me know. Some people have done the same thing for a couple of years and it would be good to have some of the newer members involved.

Don't forget the theme for our February 1st general meeting: *Famous Photographers – Show your Images in their Style*. You might pick Ansel Adams or one of our many guest speakers. Last year Keith Marshall picked photographers from within the guild and we had no trouble guessing who the photographer was. That was great!



Hotrod by Sunny Kaura

Latow to Obama By 3 Stops

Sunny Kaura

What a small world we live in! The photographic world's links can shrink the degrees of separation theory to less than the 6 stops we've all heard of.

Take the case of the Prime Minister's photographer Jason Ransom, who appears in a recently aired National Geographic documentary about the American presidential photographer, Pete Souza. These photographers' unwavering dedication to their craft has resulted in some of the most dramatic and touching archival images to become part of the public record.

Latow's connection to President Obama happens to be only 3 stops due to the fact that Jason Ransom was Latow member Sunny Kaura's wedding photographer in 2004. The world is small indeed.

This engaging documentary is available for viewing and comes highly recommended at the following web address: <http://video.nhptv.org/video/1672209202>.

Black and White Group

Don Mallory

In December, we had an excellent presentation by Michael Dowdall of the Burlington Photographic Art Group and Toronto Camera Club on printing using lith developers. Michael has been working with lith for a few years, and has been an active member in APUG, the Analogue Photography Users Group www.apug.org for some time.

His presentation was not only well received, but everyone went away with a better understanding of how to print using lith, and even had the opportunity to work with it to some degree.

There was so much interest that Michael has offered to try to get us some papers and chemistry so we may set up a workshop sometime in the new year. I will let you know the progress of this and timing of a workshop.

Upon arriving at the darkroom on Tuesday to prepare for the session, I noticed a few things amiss. I was approached by Burlington Art Centre staff regarding an issue that has come to light with their safety committee with respect to chemical disposal in the darkroom. It seems that the darkroom has been well used lately, which is great, however there are a few impacts that need to be mentioned:

1. If you detect issues with any equipment, please ensure that myself or Bill Warren are made aware so that we can initiate repairs.
2. There are chemical disposal jugs on the floor in the darkroom. These jugs are **only for spent fixer**. The BAC staff also identified no concerns in taking care spent fixer from your home darkrooms too, as long as the BAC is not sending away a massive number of jugs. Our current impact is so low that they do not mind.
3. Chemistry that is not in one of the disposal jugs cannot be disposed of by the BAC. Given that there are numerous impacts of mixing chemistry, the preference of the BAC is for members to dispose of the small quantity chemicals through the household hazardous waste depots in Halton or Hamilton. If there is concern or interest, we could put together a list of acceptably mixed chemistry and label one of the jugs for this.
4. Most importantly, this is a shared space. Please, clean up after yourself. This includes putting things away, turning off all of the devices, lights, fans, unplugging the dry-mount press, locking the door and cleaning up the sink and any trays or other equipment you may have used.

Remember, under the current regulations and testing by the federal Ministry of the Environment, developer and stop bath are safe for disposal in municipal water treatment systems (down the drain).

To reduce the impact on the pipes given that developer is a base and stop is acetic acid (vinegar), when mixed, they become pH balanced and are easier on the systems. It also keeps the trays cleaner if you mix the stop into the developer before pouring.

We are very lucky to have access to this space. I have been checking around with other groups in the region, and have only found two other community based darkrooms, both in Toronto. As long as we keep it in use and respect the space, we will continue to enjoy the trials, tribulations, and successes of traditional photography. Please respect one another.



Pontiac by Toni Browning

Evaluation Entries due

Entries for our next evaluations are due January 25.

Categories are:

- Altered Reality
- Theme - Weather
- Pictorial (regular photos)

If you have any questions please contact Virginia Stranaghan vstranaghan@gmail.com.

Seminar & AV Festival Hold the Line on Prices

Tom Stephens

Latow's seminar, our annual day of inspiration and instruction, is coming up April 9 and the big news: ticket prices remain unchanged!

Your organizing committee has heeded the warning of the Bank of Canada's Mark Carney that Canadians are borrowing too much, so we are making the seminar very affordable . . . about the cost of a month's worth of Tim's coffee (and who would borrow for that?).

Once again, seminar tickets for members purchased in advance will be only \$45. For non-members, it will be \$60. At the door, for everyone, a whopping \$75. Tickets for the AV Festival the same evening remain at \$10.

So buy your tickets early and often; they will be available starting at the general meeting in February. And this year, there will be an optional catered seminar lunch at nearby St. Luke's Parish Hall. Details will be available soon, but we expect the cost of lunch to be very reasonable and the quality very good.

The Seminar speaker is renowned landscape/travel photographer Daryl Benson www.darylbenson.com. Daryl last visited Latow in 1992, and his photography has evolved a lot since then.

He has recently self-published two gorgeous books. Canada, a beautiful coffee-table book (just add legs), will be available to purchase for a very reasonable \$25. And Daryl will run a half-day session on Sunday, April 10 on the topic of publishing photo books. He'll cover topics such as self-publishing for personal or retail (or both); book design, editing, layout and presentation; sales and distribution, and self-promotion -- how to have your book and yourself stand out from the herd.

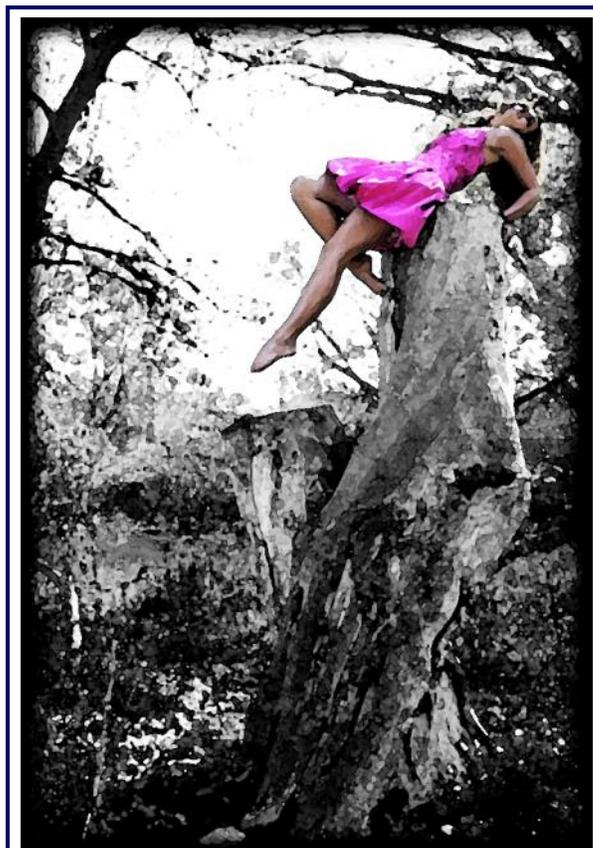
Watch this newsletter and the Latow website for further details.

Digital Group - January 18

Paul Sparrow

Toning images in Photoshop: Whether you're looking to add a simple "sepia tone" or master "split toning" and selective toning techniques, or you want to delve into more complex multiple tones of highlights and shadows this session will help.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.



Parallel Vibe by Nichala Cutts

Digital Competition Images needed by February 19th

Paul Sparrow

Every year we hold a digital competition with another camera club from some other part of the world. This year we are competing with the Dundalk Photographic Society of Ireland.

A bit of explanation for you new members: We submit 30 images and the Dundalk club will submit 30 images. The total 60 images are judged live in front of each club by a panel of three judges. Our side of the judging is on March 15th.

I want to put the bug in your ear now to submit two of your best images to me so I'll have our submissions early. Depending on how many images I get, I may only use one so let me know which one is your favourite.

Even though this is some months away the Dundalk Photographic Society will be doing their judging on March 3rd and we need our images ready to send them by February 19th.

Again images can be submitted to me at info@latow.com. Just put "Digital Competition" in the subject line.

Members' news

On Tuesday December 8, 2010 the top awards were announced for participants in *Visual Arts Mississauga's 3rd Annual Juried Show of Photography & New Media*.

Peter Young and Glen Jones received honourable mentions. Here's how the media release described their entries: "**Peter Young's** *Tree of Life* creates an almost mythical landscape through the use of infra-red photography and restrained digital manipulation techniques while **Glen Jones' Titanium Waves** has captured the energy, movement and musicality of the architects vision through the lines and material focus of the image."

Vicki Young, Jim Wallace and Fred Oliver also had images accepted into the show. Congratulations to everyone!

Claudette Mancini's image of a stained glass nativity scene was published in the December 20 edition of the *Hamilton Spectator*. Congratulations Claudette!

A warm welcome to **Joyce Newman** who recently joined Latow. Welcome aboard Joyce!

Cupids against Cancer

Cupids 2011 will be held on Saturday February 5. Please join us and help make a difference!

Our annual fundraiser, *Cupids Against Cancer* is another special time of year when we raise awareness and funds for the *On the Tip of the Toes Foundation* in memory of Glyn Ganong's daughter, Katy McDonald.

Katy lost her battle with cancer in February of 2004. We have been hosting this fundraiser since that time. Please mark your calendar and share the date with those closest to you.

You can order your tickets online at www.cupidsagainstcancer.com after the first of the year. Cheques can be mailed in to the address on our website.

If you are unable to join us, a donation would be most appreciated and will bring us that much closer to achieving our 2011 fundraising goal.

Last year, quite a few of our Latow guild members contributed prints and services to our silent auction. You might also like to contribute an item to our Live or Silent Auctions.

I hope to see you on February 5, 2011!

Glyn Ganong & the Cupids Organizing Committee

January at a Glance

Monday, Jan. 3	Board Meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 4	General Meeting: evaluation results
Group Meetings:	
Tuesday, Jan. 11	New Exposures: bring an image
Tuesday, Jan. 18	Digital Group: toning images in Photoshop
Tuesday, Jan. 25	Studio Group: lighting for close-up photography
	Evaluation entries due!
Other Events:	
Saturday, Jan. 8	Field Trip to Apps Mills

New Exposures - January 11

Peter Young

Hello everybody. I am making a change as to the number of images accepted for the night's activities. I am reducing the numbers to one (1) per member so that we can spend more time on each image presented. The following rules still apply:

- The medium can be digital, slides or prints. Please mount prints if possible. The minimum size of prints should be 8x10. (Anything smaller is difficult to view.)
- For digital images, the resolution is to be no more than 1280 X 1024. With 1280 being the maximum horizontal dimension and 1024 being the maximum vertical dimension. If members submit images smaller than this, they will project smaller.
- Images should be in JPEG format. Compression should be no less than medium, i.e. submit files with the minimum amount of compression. The images should be copied onto a flash key or a CD .
- **Slides** are no longer accepted.

We will start promptly at 7:30 as this is a full night and I anticipate we will have the pleasure of viewing numerous images.

4-Club AV

Paul Sparrow

Hope you all survived the holiday season and now that's it's a new year it's time to think about the upcoming 4 Club Wine & Cheese exhibition that will be coming up fast (Saturday Feb. 5th).

Again I'm looking to solicit digital images I can include in the AV show that I'll be producing once more for this wonderful event. This is a chance to have your images shown to a large appreciative audience through the dynamic medium of AV.

I need your best images (ones that you're particularly proud of) to make up the production.

Because it takes me a good three weeks to produce the show I need your images on disk or via e-mail info@latow.com by the New Exposures Group meeting on January 11th... earlier if possible.

Thanks and I'm looking forward to seeing your images.

Studio Group

Arthur Goeldner

Our December meeting proved to be quite technical as we explored advanced lighting with up to four lights.

Using a memory card with built in Wi-Fi to transmit images back to a notebook hooked up to a projector, Mike demonstrated the subtle changes in lighting as strobes were added or repositioned. A tungsten light setup was also used to show the difference in quality of light compared to the flash units. Three cheers to Wayne for posing through many flashes and a final interrogation under the "hot" lights.

Good news: we have replaced the broken light meter with a new Sekonic L-308S meter. An instruction manual is available on the Latow website, under Groups>StudioGroup>EquipmentManuals>SekonicLightMeter.

January Meeting: The next Studio Group meeting is on January 25th. Paul Sparrow will demonstrate *Lighting for Close-up Photography*. See you then!

A word or two from the editor:

Thanks for all your contributions this month, especially to Sunny Kaura; it's nice to have a contribution from a new member. Feedback and suggestions about this newsletter will always be welcome. Please contact the editor Frank Myers: fmyers4@gmail.com.

Best wishes to all for 2011!



Seaward by Marlene Howard

Buy, Sell etc.

From Mark Osborne:

Looking for a new camera body, new lens, or flash and find it time consuming to call around to see who has the best price? With the CDN dollar near par should I buy from the US.?

There is a web site where prices are updated daily including super stores in the US. which allows you to see price comparisons. Lots of information on taxes, duty, brokerage fees, warranty etc. if you order from the US.

Large local vendors are also included in the pricing comparison.

Go to <http://www.photoprice.ca>

From Wayne Elliott:

A friend of mine is looking for a Nikon D3000. Please email Wayne Elliott at sunsetwind@cogeco.ca.

From Glyn Ganong:

I have an Epson 2200 photo printer with ink cartridges that is free to a good home. The heads need cleaning before it can be used. Interested parties can email me at geganong@cogeco.ca