



Latow in Focus

MARCH 2012

The Prez sez...

Tom Stephens

Greetings to all from New Zealand, where summer plays hard to get but the photo opportunities abound. Today, for example, we happened upon a steam train excursion set against a stunning mountain backdrop and a steamboat out on a mountain lake – both burning local coal and really laying down the smoke. (I wonder if Virginia would accept late entries for the Transportation theme...?)

Speaking of evaluations, the Board is speeding up its consideration of replacements for the Guild laptop, which has recently suffered a near-death experience. Thanks to **Virginia Stranaghan** and her evaluation committee for dealing with a difficult situation.

Elsewhere in this edition are the details of a proposal from the Board to allow proxy voting at Latow meetings where members vote on elections and other matters. The rationale for proposing this change to our constitution is simple – to allow members to participate in Guild votes even when they are forced to miss the meeting when voting takes place.

Currently, our constitution does not allow this. For example, there were members who wished to express their support for the constitutional changes placed before our meeting on November 29th last year, but they could not do so simply because they could not attend the meeting and the constitution does not allow for any form of absentee voting.

A simple procedure and form for proxy voting are all that is needed. Proxy votes are accepted in most shareholder-owned corporations and condominium corporations, so why not Latow? One other reason why proxy voting is worthwhile: it will help to insure that we attain the 25% quorum needed for a vote to be official. We'll have a chance to vote on this issue – in person – at the Annual Business Meeting on May 1st.



Ron Chaleki's sweeping wide-angle image *Sunny Matinee* was awarded a score of 24 in the Monochrome Digital category of Latow's November Evaluations.

Latow Annual Juried Show

Keith Marshall, Juried Show Coordinator

Our annual Juried Show is approaching quickly and it's time to start working on your images. This is a framed print show and any images suitable for display in a family exhibition hall are acceptable.

All members of Latow who were members **prior to the end of October 2011** are eligible to enter. The entry fee is \$10 for up to three images. Complete information about entry requirements and the entry form are available on our [website](#) (club information > downloads > annual juried show > call for entry form).

The intake is Sunday, April 1st from 12 to 4:30pm in the Lee Chin Family Gallery. Please have your entry form completed and the appropriate information attached to each image. Please note that the document is legal sized if you are printing it at home. Copies are available in the finishing room.

This year's juror is [Susan Dobson](#).

Members' News

The following Latow Members had work accepted and sold in this year's Art Auction at the BAC:

- Fred Oliver
- Peter & Vicki Young
- Mark Emmerson
- Shirley Dennis
- Peter Simmelink
- Virginia Stranaghan
- Keith Marshall
- Glen Jones
- Don Corby

Congratulations all! **Dan Jones & Dave Lawson** fetched the second and third highest photographic sales at the auction. Photography has become increasingly important to the auction; for the last couple of years photographs have raised the second highest total proceeds on the evening (after fine art paintings).

Don Corby is holding a **macro workshop** on Sunday March 25th, from 8am to 4pm. Cost is \$95. Please e-mail [Don Corby](#) or call 905-689-1976 for more information.

Paul Sparrow will be holding a new round of **digital photography workshops** in April under the new name of "The Burlington PhotoWorkshops". Information and registration details are available [here](#), or contact [Paul Sparrow](#) by email or phone (905) 523-5665.

New Exposures—March 13th

Peter Young, New Exposures Coordinator

New Exposures is a great opportunity to get constructive feedback on your work. I encourage everyone to bring one image you would like comments on.

The group will view each image and comment on its positive and negative attributes. Our purpose is to offer suggestions which will assist the photographer.

The images can be projected or prints. Prints should be mounted and no smaller than 8x10 inches.

The specs for projected images are the same as for Evaluations and can be found on the [Latow website](#) (Club Information > downloads > Optimizing for digital projection). Please bring digital images on a flash key or a CD .

We will start promptly at 7:30pm and I look forward to another enjoyable evening viewing and discussing many members' images.

Digital Group—March 20th: International Digital Competition Judging

Paul Sparrow, Digital Group Coordinator

This month we'll be holding the judging of the International Digital Competition with the Phoenix Camera Club of the United States.

This will be a "live" judging in front of a panel of three judges, where you'll get to experience their comments "as they happen".

The Phoenix club will be doing their judging on March 17th, so we won't know who got the winning image and who was the top scoring club, until the results from the two sessions are compiled.

Even if you didn't enter an image into the competition this should be an exciting evening and a chance to see how a major competition is judged.

Looking forward to seeing you then.



Studio Group—March 27th: Lisa Horvath

Arthur Goeldner, Studio Coordinator

Be sure to come out to the Studio Group night on March 27th as guest speaker [Lisa Horvath](#) will present her new *My Portraits* presentation.

Her talk is highly recommended for a wide range of photographers, from beginners to experienced shooters interested in people photography. It is an inspirational, informative and entertaining summary of candid, travel, staged outdoor, and studio photography that starts with taking the image and takes you through post production.

Lisa provides plenty of examples of before and after images, technical tips including how to connect with people and take a wonderful image that truly represents the person. See you then!

Member Profile: Rolly Astrom

Marguerite Botting

It is fascinating the paths that bring us to photography! Rolly studied photography in the 1970s at Mohawk and Sheridan Colleges, but changed this path to spend 38 years at Dofasco supervising a team of Human Resource trainers. Curiously, Rolly was a member of Latow at its beginning and returned when he retired in 2007 and bought a digital camera.



Rolly photographs many subjects, yet his first love is portraiture. He is generous with his talent, for example, he was the photographer at one charitable function and photographed over 100 volunteers! Rolly's priority is always composition and depth of field. The final note of achievement comes when the individual says Rolly's photo is the best one ever taken of them.

Modest but certain about his knowledge, Rolly showed me two slideshows of his portraits. Frankly, I was astounded, as all his portraits had an inner light; it seemed that the soul and spirit had been recorded. Rolly states that when he 'sees the right light' and no one is near, he will approach a stranger to ask if he or she will pose for him. The magic begins. Rolly paints each person with light and their nature and mood are revealed through his skill. I am haunted by Rolly's portraits, as the people he photographed are known to me by their eyes, hands and expression. An image that is touchingly human!

Where do you live? What brought you to the area?

Originally from Hamilton, a lovely girl drew me to Burlington in the early seventies and I've lived in the core ever since. A five minute drive to the BAC is a bonus.

How long have you been a member of Latow?

I believe this is my fourth year as a member.

What attracted you to Latow in the first place? What keeps you coming back?

Retiring five years ago and new to the digital world, I wanted to learn more about the technical side of the process. Latow has been great for that with a really open, sharing group of members who have a wealth of expertise. The great people keep me coming back, plus the continuing opportunity for growth. The Latow schedule provides plenty of opportunity to

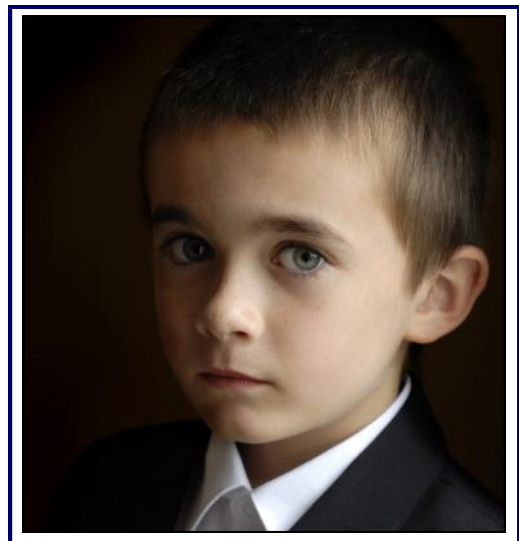
give and receive constructive feedback. Lots of laughter involved too.

What kind of camera(s) do you shoot with?

I've taken the Nikon SLR path and currently shoot with a D200 and a D80. I'm shopping for a D700....but don't tell Liz!

How would you describe your philosophy regarding (a) photography? and (b) post-processing?

I almost always see the finished image in my mind's eye. To get the result I want, I tend to be deliberate with my composition, lens selection and camera settings. Likely that's a result of habits formed in the early seventies when film and processing costs were considered on every shoot. I view post processing as simply another tool in the bag and use Photoshop to tweak virtually every image. As a tool, it can be a feather duster, a scalpel or a hammer; so I let the image and my original vision of it dictate the degree of enhancement I use.



Tell us about the photograph you've chosen to include in this profile.

Gregory is a shot I also refer to as "The Old Soul" because of the depth I see in his eyes. It was the day of his first communion and I had just spent an hour taking photos outside with him and I think every relative he has. Following that, I asked to have ten minutes to do a personal portrait and this was the result. It's a serious expression for a child and when I showed his mother the finished shot she said, "That's our Gregory. Of the four boys, he's the deep

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one." It was taken inside his house on a landing with lovely light coming in the window. I used the Nikon D200 with a 50mm 1.8 lens, shooting at 1/30 sec, F4 with ISO set at 160. I cropped it to square format to fill the frame with his face and burned in the area behind his head away from the light.

What are your favourite subjects to photograph?
Portraiture is my first love and I try to use natural light as much as possible. People have generously commented that I often seem to capture a subject's soul. Getting the subjects to expose their soul though is really the challenge. My biggest reward in photography has come from seeing the positive reaction to my portraiture.

Fine cars are second on my list and have been a lifelong passion of mine. Luckily I've had the opportunity to capture some lovely classics and exotics. I've started to do some sports photography lately and am enjoying it.

Have you had your photographs published?
Yes, I've had my work appear in *The Prancing Horse* which is The Ferrari Club of America's quarterly magazine, *Bob Izumi's Real Fishing*, *Sports Xpress*, *Here's How*, *The Burlington Visitor's Guide*, *The Hamilton Spectator*, *Huffington Post* *Canada's Most Romantic Cities*.

Have you had photographs exhibited?
I've taken part in many of the Latow exhibitions over the last few years including the Annual Juried Show. I've also shown at the Sunrise Gallery, the Picture Frame in Hamilton and the Burlington Art Centre.

Has your photography become a career or is it a hobby?

Although I do some commissioned work I'm a hobbyist at heart and glad to not have the stress of relying on it to make a living.

Name one thing in your camera bag that is not technically equipment. What is its purpose?
I'm a grazer and don't go long periods without food, so usually something that won't melt finds its way into the bag, or clipped to it.

Where can we see more of your work?
My [website](#) is currently down but I hope to have it back up. Lately I've been posting a lot in my Facebook galleries and I welcome new FB friends, so come and have a look.

Proposal to allow proxy voting

(Official notice to members: Proposed change to constitution re: voting rights.)

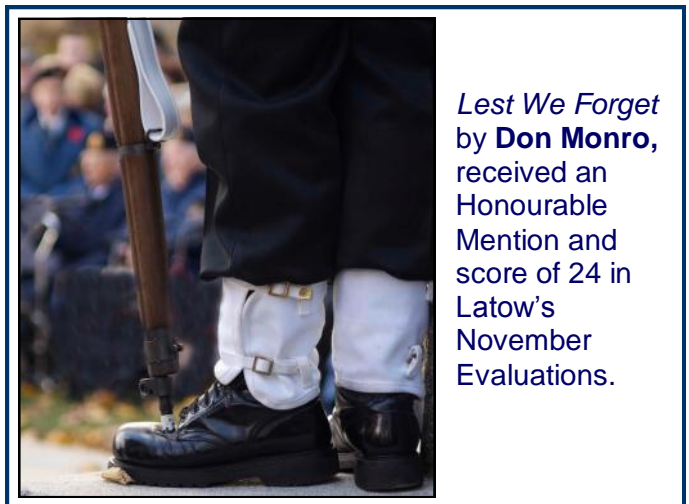
The Latow Board plans to put the following before the membership at the Annual Business Meeting on May 1st.

The current version of our constitution states the following regarding voting by members:

Article IV. Voting Rights -- Any Guild member in good standing is entitled to one vote at the General Meeting and at the Annual Business Meeting. A family membership is entitled to two votes.

The Board proposes adding the following at the end of this Article: **"A vote may be cast in person or by proxy, after completing a proxy form authorized by the Board."**

An example of such a proxy form will be circulated to members by email and posted on the members' page of the Latow website.



Lest We Forget by **Don Monro**, received an Honourable Mention and score of 24 in Latow's November Evaluations.

Wanted: Field Trip Coordinator

Your board is looking for a Latow member who would like to coordinate the two remaining outings this season and possibly continue on next year.

The venues for the two remaining field trips have been determined: April (wildflowers) and May (RBG Rock Garden).

The coordinator is responsible for coming up with six locations per year, making simple arrangements with the venues if required, and providing short articles to promote and report on outings in the newsletter.

If you are interested in taking this on, or need more information, please contact board President [Tom Stephens](#) or Vice-President [Wayne Elliott](#).

Portuguese Traditional Fishing

Jim Wallace

Particular to the fishing village of Praia de Mira, (approximately 150 miles north of Lisbon), the Meia Lua (“half moon”) fishing boat is well adapted to the style of fishing villagers have practiced for centuries.



Here fishing boats are not moored at docks but launched from the beach into the surf, and after laying nets, are hauled back up onto the shore. Oxen traditionally pulled the boats in and out of the water; tractors are now used for this purpose.



The Meia Lua is ideally suited for this method of fishing. With no keel, this long (10 metres) flat-bottomed boat is easily moved in and out of the water. The high prow breaks the waves as the boat is pushed into the surf. Lacking a mast and sails, the boat was propelled by oars mounted mid-ship, more recently by an inboard motor.



Once in deep waters, these boats lay large nets with ropes attached to either end. The ropes are connected to winches on tractors waiting on shore and are then used to slowly close the nets and pull them to shore.



Once hauled onto the beach, the catch (mainly sardine and carapau) is quickly sorted and taken away in boxes by dealers. Local residents scoop up any fish that escape the sorters and the seagulls. *Carapau* in English means “horse mackerel”



Gallery attendants needed

Leonie Holmes

I am the chairperson for BAC's Gallery Attendants. Quite a few attendants have left and I need some new people to fill the gaps.

As a Gallery Attendant all you have to do is sit in the main gallery for two hours each week and count how many visitors there are during your two hours.

The hours count as points for a free parking pass next year.

If interested please email me at: leonie@cogeco.ca or see me at a Latow meeting.

Panoramics: other uses

Tim Story

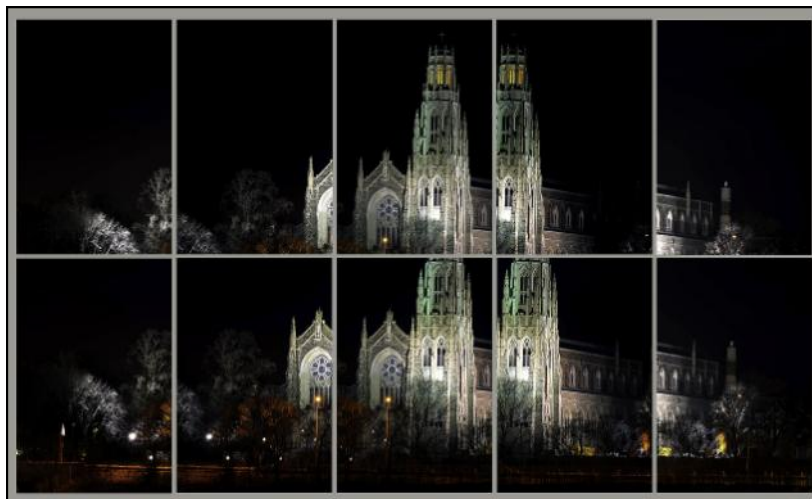
One traditional definition of a panoramic photograph is “a picture or series of pictures representing a continuous scene”. Panoramic photographs were easily recognized by their 3:1 ratio or higher such as in a 12”x36” print size for example. But is this the only use for a panoramic? With the introduction of digital cameras, panoramics are easily put together in the field and on the computer. You simply need to “think in panoramic” when viewing a scene.

At first glance, most people would not consider the image of the church at night a panoramic, HDR (high dynamic range) combination. It is very close in both appearance and the 3:2 ratio of a single full frame image from a DSLR. So why did I combine 30 single images from 2 HDR, panoramics for this image, when I could have taken a single in camera image?

Quality from larger file sizes for printing and dynamic range.

Every digital device has a maximum size file it can record and this technique allows me to use this fixed size to produce a

much larger image size. Most non-professional photographers cannot afford a 36MP camera and the expensive lenses required to capture the quality from such a sensor. A single RAW image from a 16 MP Nikon D7000 used for the photographs of the church roughly produces a 13x20 inch print at 240 dpi straight out of the camera. The merged church image is 28x44 inches at 240 dpi, that’s a 400% increase in the files print size without any resizing in Photoshop. Down sampling the 28x44 file to a 20x36 print size, for example, produces superior quality prints over up sizing a single 13x20 image to match.



Each of the 10 images as shown in the photograph sectional are HDR (high dynamic range) images comprised of merging 3 identical compositions each with different exposures into a single composition. I did 5 compositions along the bottom and another 5 over lapping compositions across the top, each with a +1, 0, -1 manual exposure based on the highlights. I then combined all 10 HDR compositions into a

single panoramic through Photoshop CS5. Using HDR for this image more accurately represents how the human brain would have resolved the differences between the very bright highlights and shadows. A single image with one exposure based on the highlights would have lost all shadow detail and recovering details in the shadows in Photoshop will make them very noisy.

This technique also allows me to isolate the subject from distracting foreground and background elements by using moderate focal lengths (100mm-

200mm) instead of wider angle lenses to capture the same scene. 170mm was used for the church at a distance instead of a 28mm lens closer. I use this panoramic technique a lot for stationary scenes, most without HDR, to produce high quality prints that do not look like traditional panoramics. The next time you want to photograph a scene you like, “think in panoramic” before deciding on how to capture the image.

If you have any questions or want more detailed steps on how this image was created, please feel free to [email](#) me.

IrfanView

Dave Howard

There was quite a bit of interest in the simple image editing program I demonstrated a few weeks ago, and it was suggested I provide the information for the newsletter.

The program is called IrfanView. A Google search will indicate it's in the top three of **free** image editing programs. I've used it for over 10 years. It's frequently updated and has an extensive collection of free plug-ins to accomplish many image-related tasks.

Many people not overly computer literate are very intimidated with the thought of having to process images with Photoshop, let alone the expense of a licensed version. I strongly recommend this program as an easy starting point and it is quite capable of performing the basic operations to setup a digital camera image for display on our projector.

Marlene started out using it prior to Photoshop Elements and some of her images have received HMs after editing only with IrfanView. The installation does not dump files all over the place or alter the Windows registry, my demo was all done from a memory stick.

I still use it a lot, and set it up as the default association for displaying any picture images on my computer; it's so much faster than any of the MS products built into the operating system. It also can't be beat for basic image resizing and quick editing prior to emailing pictures out. You can edit an image in less than 30 seconds.

Here's the link to the [home page](#), and download sites. Check it out and if you are interested in trying IrfanView, [contact me](#) and I'll email you my recommendations for downloading, setup and workflow.

I take photographs with love, so I try to make them art objects. But I make them for myself first and foremost— that is important.

Jacques-Henri Latrigue

Marketplace

Nikon P5000 digital camera:

3.5x optical zoom (7.5 - 26.3 mm), f 1:2.7 - 5.3
shutter 8" - 1/2000

15 scenes

ISO 64 - 3200 or auto

Rangefinder

Included extras: Flash card; Nikon SB-400
bounce-capable flash (amazing for kids);
polarizer kit; camera bag.

Nice travel camera that will fit into a pocket or
comfortable on a wrist strap in your hand. \$300

Canon G10 digital camera:

5x optical zoom (6.1 - 30.5 mm), f1:2.8 - 4.5
shutter 15" - 1/4000

16 scenes

ISO 80 - 1600 or auto

Rangefinder

Included extras: Flash card; polarizer kit, camera
bag.

Very good travel camera that is comfortable on a
wrist strap in your hand. \$300

Both cameras: \$550 will include a bag for both
cameras and accessories together. Trading up.
Email [Roger Cryslar](mailto:Roger.Cryslar) or call 905-648-1742.

A welcome change

Sandi Yacobucci, Membership Chair Latow

Well, we now officially have user-friendly name tags! Effective immediately, we will no longer be using the pin type name badges.

If any of you have your name tags at home, please bring them to me at the next meeting and I will replace them with the new ones. If you are missing your name tag, please sign the form at the membership table and I will provide you with a replacement.

I have also updated the filing system for the tags, which should make unpacking and packing up the tags much quicker and more efficient.

I also wanted to inform everyone as to the color coding for the dots which appear on some name tags: Yellow is for our new members and green is for executive and mentors. If you would like to be a mentor and do not have a green dot, please see me and I can provide you with one.



Gerber Daisy earned **Dennis Martin** a score of 25 and an Honourable Mention in the November Evaluations.

AB/BAC Update

Arts Burlington Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting is being held March 22nd at 7pm in the Shoreline Room at the BAC. The evening's events include the customary business matters of Arts Burlington, to be followed by an enjoyable guest speaker.

Outgoing President, Elaine Eastman, will present a summary of the challenges and achievements of 2011 and incoming President, **Dave Lawson**, will present a summary of the exciting upcoming year that will mark the 40th anniversary of Arts Burlington. The Presidents of the six Arts Burlington guilds will also give reports.

All are invited to attend and participate!

Arts Burlington Logo Competition

After nearly forty years of service, a logo built on even the best genetics will develop a wrinkle or two. In that time, the Burlington Art Centre has been built, our guilds have grown to represent over 500 artists and the technology of many artistic disciplines has evolved.

It is hoped the new logo will represent the values and goals of the guilds, capture the imagination, reflect the relationship of Arts Burlington with the community and be instantly recognizable as part of the "brand" of Arts Burlington.

The competition closes March 31st and full details are available on the [Arts Burlington website](#).

Upcoming . . .

NFRCC Convention:

The **Niagara Frontier Regional Camera Club** (NFRCC) is pleased to announce their 51st Annual Spring Convention, March 16th to 18th at Niagara Falls Conference Centre.

There are 12 speakers covering an array of photographic genres, a vendor area, and many more events over the weekend. Please check our [website](#) for speaker details and registration information.

Toronto Digital Photography Club presents **Tony Sweet's** one-day seminar entitled *21st Century Photography: Merging of Vision and Technology*, March 24th, at the University of Toronto MacLeod Auditorium. More details are available on the [TDPC website](#).

Photo Life Magazine is proud to partner with Cruise North Expeditions to offer **The High Arctic Expedition**. Travelling well beyond the Arctic Circle, this expedition explores western Greenland, Devon Island and the historic route to the North Pole. Dates: August 9th to 19th. Contact [Cruise North Expeditions](#) for more information.

Camelot Centre invites you to join in the celebration of their Sixth Anniversary with a *Hippie Happening*. (*Camelot Centre is the charity that will benefit from the draw for the Nevada Wier print at our Annual Seminar.*)

All proceeds support programming at [Camelot Centre](#), a creative day program for intellectually disabled adults.

Saturday, March 24th, from 7pm to 11pm.

Burlington Art Centre

Tickets: \$75. Table of 8: \$600

Contact [Bonnie Sylvia](#): 905-632-2396

The artist's world is limitless. It can be found anywhere, far from home or a few feet away. It is always on his doorstep.

Paul Strand

March at a Glance

Thursday, March 15 Board Meeting

Group Meetings:

Tuesday, March 6 General Meeting:
Evaluation #3 results

Tuesday, March 13 New Exposures:
Constructive critiques

Tuesday, March 20 Digital Group:
International Digital
Challenge with
Phoenix Camera Club

Tuesday, March 27 Studio Group: [Lisa
Horvath](#) on *My
Portraits*

Other Events:

Wednesday,
March 28 Latow Members Show
opens in Fireside
Room



Bill Browning's image *Fire* was awarded an Honourable Mention and score of 25 in the November Evaluations.



It's Coffee Time by **Keith Marshall** scored 25 and received an Honourable Mention in the November Evaluations.

A word or two from the editor:

Thanks to all our contributors for another great month of newsletter content, proving once again that we are "not your average camera club".

- Thanks to **Marguerite Botting** for the excellent profile of member **Rolly Astrom**. Marguerite has a long list of interesting and accomplished members to be featured in the coming months.
- **Jim Wallace** has contributed an excellent travelogue, featuring colourful images and insight into traditional fishing methods in Portugal. Thanks Jim!
- Our technical page was contributed by **Tim Story**, with an informative article on production of complex panoramic images. Thank you Tim!

- And thanks to **Dave Howard** for following up on his recent presentation about the free image editing software *IrfanView*.

To contribute a travelogue or technical/topical article, get in touch with me to discuss content and availability of space. As always, we rely on your contributions to all aspects of the newsletter: group activities, members' news, Marketplace and anything that may be of interest to our members, so please keep them coming.

Please contact the editor [Frank Myers](#) by email, speak with me at a Latow meeting, or call 905-635-8259.

Latow Board

President	Tom Stephens
Vice-President	Wayne Elliott
Secretary	Debbie Forbes
Treasurer	Peter Schulze
Past-President	Toni Browning
Directors	Frank Myers Bob Walling Atchuta Alapati Marguerite Botting Ort Baldauf

About Latow Photographers Guild

We meet every Tuesday night at 7:30pm from September to June at the [Burlington Art Centre](#). General meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month and the group meetings on the following Tuesdays each month.

Board meetings are held monthly and any Latow member in good standing is welcome to attend.

For more information about Latow, visit our [website](#) and to contact any of the board members or group/activity coordinators, send an email to info@latow.com.



Group and Activity Coordinators

Annual Seminar	Wayne Elliott
Arts Burlington	Dave Lawson/ Glen Jones
AV Festival	Paul Sparrow
B & W Group	Don Mallory
BAC Communications	Ort Baldauf
CAPA	Bob Walling
Christmas Potluck	Toni & Bill Browning
Christmas Sale	Virginia Stranaghan & Bill Browning
Darkroom Lockers	Paul MacDiarmid
Darkroom Maintenance	Bill Warren
Digital Group	Paul Sparrow
Evaluations	Virginia Stranaghan
Fine Art & Craft Festival	Keith Marshall
Fireside Displays, Group/Individual	Bill Warren/ Ed Franko
Three-Club Display	(vacant)
Juried Show	Keith Marshall
Kaleidoscope	Dave Lawson
Membership	Sandi Yacobucci
New Exposures	Peter Young
Newsletter	Frank Myers
One Day in the Life of Burlington	Paul Sparrow Toni & Bill Browning
Outings	(vacant)
Photo Art Group	Joh Friedrich
Studio Group	Arthur Goeldner
Volunteer hours	Ort Baldauf
Website	Paul Sparrow

