



# Latow in Focus

Burlington, Ontario

SEPTEMBER 2012

## The Prez sez...

Tom Stephens

Ahhh, September, glorious September: cooler nights, kids back to school, touches of color in the trees, and ... a new Latow season. In this, our 42<sup>nd</sup> season, there will be many familiar elements and some positive changes. Among the changes – a new projector, a new approach to the Guild brochure, and some new activity coordinators.

Thanks to Paul Sparrow, the Board was alerted in June to a very attractive price reduction on a high-end Canon projector, so we did our homework quickly and decided to go for it – a true digital projector that will add quality to all our shows, especially those on the big screen such as for the Seminar and Three Club. **Be sure to check the Latow website for the new evaluation specs.** And thanks to Bill Browning for building the new stand for the projector.

The familiar 4-panel brochure is now a thing of the past. You may have seen that the other BAC guilds have adopted a common 3-panel format and Latow will soon follow suit. When it appears, the new brochure will not include the program. Instead, we will use the Latow website and e-blasts to provide a continually updated version of our dynamic program. This makes more sense than printing hard copies in September of a program as if it were going to stay unchanged through June.

Several new coordinators can be expected to bring fresh energy and ideas to their tasks – Frank Myers to the Annual Seminar, Marguerite Botting and Don Munro to New Exposures, Andrzej Pradzynski and Dave Fernandes to the Studio, Claudette Mancini and Debbie Forbes to Membership, Wayne Elliott to



Congratulations to **Jim Hamilton**, whose image *Fall Morning in Tuscany* was awarded Digital Image of the Year in Latow's 2011-2012 Annual Awards.

the Three Club, Bill Warren to the Christmas Potluck, and Sandi Yacobucci to Outings. *But there are still opportunities!* Latow needs coordinators for the Christmas Sale (16-18 Nov) and the Fine Arts & Crafts Festival (8-9 June). It would be ideal to have two people for each of these events. Let me know if you are interested or just have questions.

One other change will be noticed as the new year begins: Latow fees have risen \$5, in accord with a Board decision of June 2010. This is the second of two increases and will partially offset the levy of \$20 per member that we now pay to the BAC. On reflection, I hope you will agree that \$50 (\$75 for a family) is still good value for the facilities and programs that we enjoy.

Like the song says, see you in September.

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## Members' News

The Royal Ontario Museum is presenting *Afterimage: **Tod Ainslie's** Vision of the War of 1812*. These evocative photographs, documenting many of the War's historically significant sites, were taken between 2001 and 2009 using three pinhole cameras Tod designed and built. The 22 photographic works are displayed in the Wilson Canadian Heritage Exhibition Room until February 24, 2013. Congratulations Tod!

Congratulations also to **David Allan Galbraith**, whose image *Swan Beach* was selected for inclusion in a book of photos taken around the world on February 4, 2012. The occasion was *World Pentax Day*, and David shot a roll of B&W film with his Pentax K1000 at LaSalle Park. 56 images were selected from among thousands submitted to [PentaxForums.com](http://PentaxForums.com) by the editors. The 2012 World Pentax Day photo book is now available for purchase [on-line](#).

**Joel Waterman's** image of a circular staircase inside the lighthouse at St Augustine FL is featured on the cover of the spring/summer edition of Photo Ed (current edition). This photo was also Latow photo of the year in 2011. Congratulations Joel!

**Dan Jones, Fred Oliver and Glen Jones** will be exhibiting at the [Mount Carmel Fine Art & Music Festival](#) on Saturday and Sunday, September 8 and 9. This is a juried exhibition on the grounds of the historic 136 year old Mount Carmel Monastery located at 7021 Stanley Ave. in Niagara Falls. The

## Member profile wins PSA Award

For the second year, *In Focus* has done very well in the annual Photographic Society of America newsletter competition. This year we were recognized for the "Best Member Profile".

A big thanks to **Marguerite Botting**, who has taken on the job of researching and writing this monthly feature. Marguerite does an excellent job "getting the facts" and telling the story of the person behind the camera. Her profile of Shirley Dennis in our February edition was the winning article.

These profiles were added to the newsletter last season, along with travelogues and occasional features contributed by members.

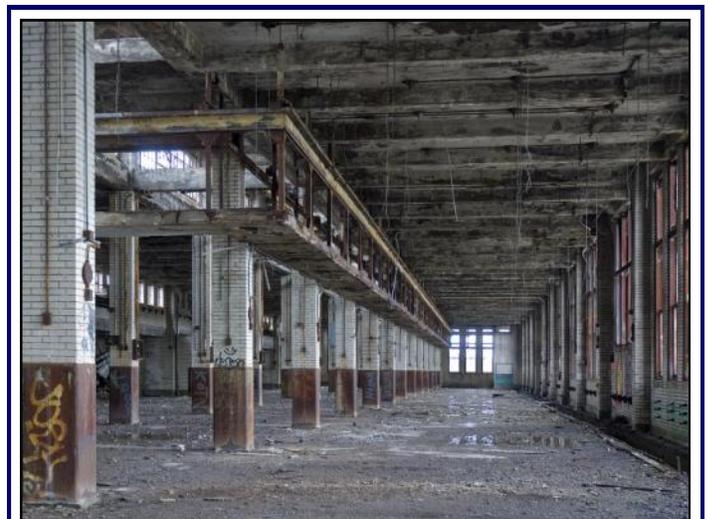
Watch for some further additions and enhancements in the coming season. And, as always, remember that it is the participation of the membership that make our newsletter successful.

festival hours are 11am to 5pm both days. Glen advises they will have new work on display.

**Peter Young's** show continues in the Fireside Room through September and **Leonie Holmes** is busy preparing for her exhibit. Leonie takes over the space from Sept. 26 to Oct. 30. Don't miss seeing the work of these talented Latow members.



Latow members are well represented in the current McMaster Innovation Park *Art in the Workplace* exhibition. The show features work by roughly 50 local artists working in various media and runs until November 15. **Ort Baldauf, Frank Myers Leonie Holmes, Tom Stephens and Dennis Martin**, took a moment for a group photo at the opening reception on August 2nd. **John Pingree** was unable to attend.

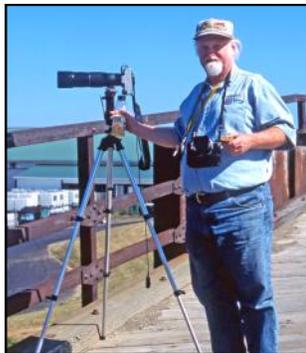


*Abandoned Rail Terminal* by **Frank Myers** was awarded First Place in Colour Prints as well as Print Image of the Year in the 2011-2012 Annual Awards.

## Member Profile: Dave Howard

*Marguerite Botting*

Truly a purist, Dave honours the scientific process of photography when he captures an image and then tracks it to the final slide. He does not manipulate in any way as his photos come straight from the camera. Dave keeps careful notes of his settings every time he presses the shutter button.



All decisions are made when Dave decides what to include in his viewfinder, his choice of film, depth of field, aperture and shutter speed. On every shoot, Dave has his 3 cameras and 2 tripods – he is ready!

Dave believes that capturing the photograph is more fulfilling than the editing. Dave's work life is centered on computers so this is why he steers away from editing his images – enough computer time already! Every Friday evening in his 'slide storage room,' Dave reviews his images, matches these to his notes and sits back to enjoy the miracles of photography.

We all know that Dave's speciality is trains. Introduced to trains as a child, Dave has gone on to capture trains throughout North America, has published many calendars and regularly distributes his images through railway newsletters. A gentle and articulate photographer, Dave's passion is an inspiration for those of us in the digital world to plan more before taking the shot – thank you Dave!

*Where do you live? How long have you lived there? What brought you to the area?*

Born and raised in Hamilton, and after Westdale Secondary and Mohawk College, moved to Toronto for employment in the Process Control Industry. Met Marlene during my 3 to 4 years of life in the big city, and after we married the low housing prices in Hamilton called us home. All three of our children were born and raised in an older 2 ½ story brick house close to Gage Park, ironically not too far from where I started out decades ago. The growing family required more space fulfilled by a move to Aldershot over 25 years ago.

*How long have you been a member of Latow?*

Marlene and I joined together, seems to me about 10 years ago. We had frequently attended the "Wine and Cheese" yearly slide/print shows, often with friends, so we were quite aware of the photographic clubs in the area.

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

We "sampled" the various clubs as guests, and we liked the list of topics for the annual program. My goal was to encourage Marlene to shoot more (her dad was a Toronto Photographic Club member and a skilled Konica photographer); Marlene's goal was to encourage me to expand my subject matter, as we all know, 'Railways' are a favourite subject of mine.

*How would you describe your philosophy regarding photography and post-processing?*

With slides, you have to get it right the first time, no cropping or exposure post processing, which makes a rewarding image so satisfying. Sort of like my extensive pop music DVD collection, probably two-thirds of which are live performance recordings, versus the overly polished (perfect) studio sound.

Having worked with Industrial Automation (Process Control Computers) as a career, I don't relish the thought of more PC time post-processing digital images when home. Already I spend too much time playing around with PC's as a hobby. I do enjoy scanning slides (Epson V700) and distributing the images, but I limit the processing to the basics. I have no interest in the fancy Photoshop effects.



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

Guess people would be disappointed if it wasn't a train... so here's an artsy shot I used in my 2005 Ontario Railway Calendar. Taking advantage of the setting sun, which reflects quite well on vertical sides of railway equipment, the train in the foreground is moving from one track to the other, while the one in the background is waiting, stopped. Checking with

*(Continued on page 4)*

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my notebook (this is film of course... no EXIF), the technical information is:

Film: Kodak E100VS

Camera: Pentax 1970's vintage MX... 100% manual!

Lens: Pentax A Series 70-210 Zoom

Exposure: 125 @ f8

Time: Early March 2004, about 5:50 PM

Composition: Right place at the right time!

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

In two words: **Pentax** and **Slides**. We have some point and shoot digitals (Pentax of course), and I bought Marlene a Pentax K200D DSLR, which I confess sometimes I play around with. My favourite Pentax body is a fully manual 70's vintage MX with motor drive, and an assortment of my many "Prime" lenses. I also use LX, Super Program, PZ-1p, and MZ-S, all with manual focus and metered with a Gossen Luna-Pro F on incident.

*What are your favourite subjects to photograph?*

In one word **trains**. I've had an interest in railways as far back as I can remember, and dabbled with larger O scale (not the more common HO) model railways, but don't currently have a home model railway. As a member of the [Canadian Railroad Historical Association](#), Niagara Division, our mandate is to preserve railway heritage (pictures, movie and video), I've often been complimented as a skilled photographer who just happens to like trains, as opposed to the point and shoot people. I love the photographic challenges of shooting a moving subject (100 MPH VIA), and having to utilize long lenses and the lighting conditions as best as possible.

*Have you had your photographs published?*

My photos have been published in a couple of railway hard copy magazines, and frequently now in

## Members' Forum now active

A number of members have been taking advantage of our new Latow forum. It's a new benefit of membership and a place to share Guild-related ideas and work.

Thanks to Adam Filipowicz for setting up this online site for topics specific to Latow and our geographic area, e.g., recommendations for exhibits to see or where to get printing done locally.

For access to the Forum, members will need a user name and password. To get started, contact [Adam](#). Adam will also serve as forum moderator, but it's up to all of us to keep discussion constructive and on topic. Thanks, Adam!

various on-line railway publications.

*Have you had your photographs exhibited?*

I've been summoned over the years to present slide shows for different organizations, some North American wide. I must thank Latow for helping me fine tune the choice of projection equipment, and recently the techniques of a good presentation.

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

Strictly a hobby, I wouldn't dream of shooting a wedding. I don't feel I have the "people" skills.

*Name one thing in your camera bag that is not technically equipment. What is its purpose?*

A combination knife/saw, for knocking down the odd bit of vegetation which detracts from an otherwise perfect railway shot, and a good book to read while waiting.

*Where can we see more of your work?*

I tend to have a "low" internet profile, but that will probably change when I retire in a few years. I do email out a monthly railway image and comments (from the calendar I've shown at Latow). The images are generally well received and they travel all over the web. This has meant that I have been solicited for on-line publications.

I don't very often contribute to on-line forums / newsgroups, but couldn't resist submitting my 1971 6218 steam excursion image to [PentaxForums.com](#) → Photo Sharing and Galleries → Monthly Photo Contests → Contest Voting. It appears to be doing quite well, with more views than any other image.



*Snowscape* by **Virginia Jamieson** received Second Place, Digital Image of the Year in the Annual Awards.

## Photo Arts Group—Sept. 25

*Joh. Friedrich, Photo Art Coordinator*

Did I keep you busy all summer creating artsy-fartsy, interpretive, soul searching, expressive, controversial and abstract images? Not likely; but if I did, I hope to see many of them in our programs this coming season.

Our first session is on September 25. Again, I will give you, especially the newer members, some food for thought in my presentation about **the rules of composition**.

For the more seasoned photo artists this will be a refresher. For those who keep wondering why your efforts seem to fall short of your expectations, this is a primer. We will deal with the effective arrangement of your image elements for greater impact. A toolbox full of bits and bytes you can use to make your images say **WOW**. So join me that Tuesday and actively participate.

Now to something else: Some of my inspiration for the stuff I do came from the old collection of *Camera Canada Magazine*. In the old days, when I was president of NAPA, now CAPA, the magazine was a photo art publication. The variety of approaches to expressive photography was limitless. All my old copies of that magazine are now available to all of you. The entire collection is in a box in the studio lighting equipment room. Rummage through them and take home whatever appeals to you. Good hunting!

## Evaluations—Higher rez, new theme

*Virginia Stanaghan, Evaluation Committee Chair*

The theme for the fourth evaluation of 2012 - 2013 is *Cemeteries*. Cemeteries and graveyards are synonymous for this purpose.

“Graveyards” is generally accepted to include any collection of dead things. (While auto junk yards would be included, for example, the “graveyard shift” would not be considered as appropriate for the cemetery theme and therefore would not be accepted.)

Images which do not illustrate the theme will be disqualified. Theme entries are due on February 5th and must be based on photos taken since June of this year.

New Higher Resolution- The resolution for images submitted to Evaluation and Annual Awards for this

## September at a Glance

Thursday, Sept. 13	Board Meeting
<b>Group Meetings:</b>	
Tuesday, Sept. 4	General Meeting: Program preview & short shows on “How I spent my summer”.
Tuesday, Sept. 11	Digital Group: Introduction.
Tuesday, Sept. 18	Studio Group: Re-orientation and card signing.
Tuesday, Sept. 25	Photo Art Group: The tools of composition. Evaluation #1 entries due.
<b>Other Events:</b>	
Sunday, Sept. 16	Outing: British Car Day
Sunday, Sept. 30	One Day in the Life of Burlington shoot

**Peter Young’s** exhibit continues in Fireside Room. Leonie **Holmes** takes over Sept. 26.

season (2012-2013) will be changed to 1400 x 1050. For more detailed information, please refer to the Evaluation Regulations. You will find the regulations on the Latow website under the heading [Evaluation Regulations 2012-2013](#).

## Photo opportunities

*Wayne Elliott*

Since the theme evaluation for this upcoming club year is cemeteries/graveyards, photographers might be interested in visiting the oldest cemetery in Toronto. St. James Cemetery is on Parliament St. between Wellesley and Bloor Streets.

The headstones and monuments are quite large and there are many examples of statuary. There is much to keep a photographer busy for quite a while.

## St. John's and Eastern Newfoundland

Frank Myers

We visited St. John's and eastern Newfoundland in June 2010. Although we had seen many photographs and heard others enthusiastically describe it, I was totally unprepared for the artistic inspiration generated by this enchanting island.



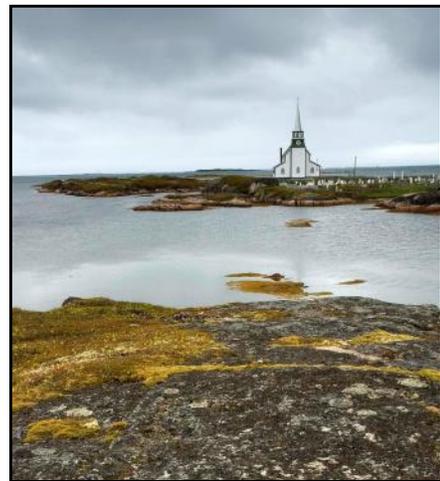
We flew into St. John's, met up with our friends from Mississauga, then left the next morning to travel northward along the coast. Allowing for plenty of time to explore, we were still able to arrive at our B & B in Bonavista by early evening.



With just 8 days available, we spent two nights in Bonavista, then headed north again to Twillingate and two days exploring that area. Although the locals assured us there would be plenty of icebergs and whales around soon, we did not see any. This was not an issue for us, as we were totally occupied by the landscape and quaint fishing villages.



After two days in Twillingate, we headed back to St. John's for the remainder of our visit. One day was spent touring the Avalon Peninsula, which was quite a surprise, much of it being almost desert-like.



This church is in a small village truly "at the end of the road". As if to prove the popularity of Newfoundland with photographers, while we were shooting it, who should we meet but our own Wayne Elliott and his wife Judy!



Evenings in St. John's are easy to spend over dinner and a pint in charming pubs like this one.

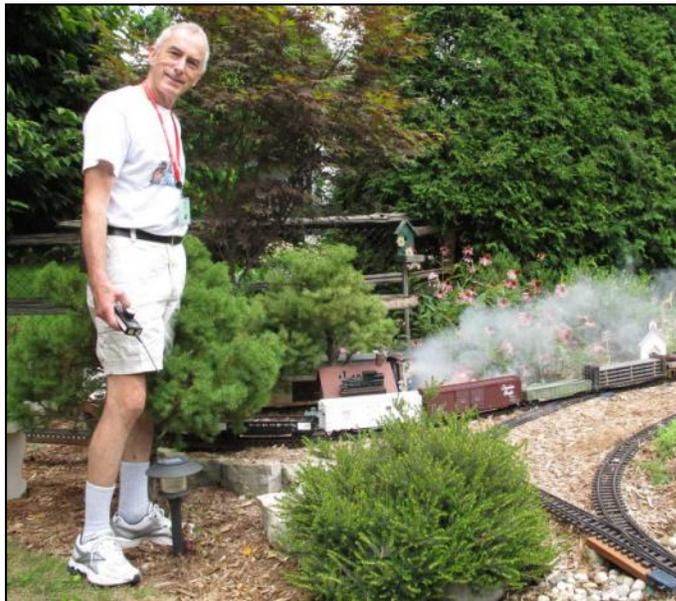
## Seminar News

Frank Myers, Seminar Chair

At our annual seminar in April, chair Tom Stephens announced that next season's seminar will be presented by Mike Grandmaison.

Mike is widely published in the leading photography magazines. His popular photo books include a Canadian bestseller. Grandmaison Photography acts as a full service stock photography agency specializing in images of the natural world, agriculture, travel and Canadiana. More important from our perspective though, is that Mike has inspired thousands of photographers through his workshops and seminars.

Be sure to have a look at the gorgeous images on [Mike's website](#) and you will know we will be hosting a worthy addition to Latow's long list of top quality presenters.



Joel Waterman presides over his wonderful Rushbury Valley RR at his Open Garden event in August.



Atchuta Alapati's show in the Fireside Room during August was titled *Light and Time*. The show included experimental, highly creative abstract captures of water droplets.

*A man should hear a little music, read a little poetry, and see a fine picture every day of his life, in order that worldly cares may not obliterate the sense of the beautiful which God has implanted in the human soul.*

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

## A word or two from the editor:

Welcome back to another Latow season and the first edition of *In Focus* for 2011-2012.

As always, thanks to President Tom Stephens as well as the group and activity leaders for keeping our readers up to date through their contributions. Thanks to Marguerite Botting for another excellent profile, this month featuring our train man, Dave Howard.

Speaking of Marguerite, there will be an award forthcoming from the Photographic Society of America, recognizing her profile of Shirley Dennis as the best member profile in this year's newsletter competition. Look for more of Marguerite's great profiles of our interesting and talented members in the coming months.

Thanks to everyone who contributed news of our members' activities and accomplishments. The *Members' News* page is the best illustration of just what a dynamic and talented group of members we have.

There were no offers to contribute a travelogue this month, so when jammed for time, I put one together myself. This is a great way to share your travel experiences and photography with the membership, so let me know if you'd like to fill that space in the coming months.

Your feedback and suggestions about *In Focus* are always welcome. Send me an [email](#), give me a call at 905-635-8259, or catch me at a meeting and I'd be glad to discuss your ideas.

## Latow Board

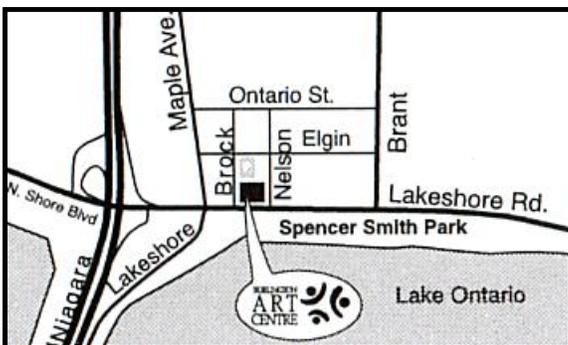
President	Tom Stephens <a href="mailto:tom@tomstephens.ca">tom@tomstephens.ca</a>
Vice-President	Wayne Elliott <a href="mailto:sunsetwind@cogeco.ca">sunsetwind@cogeco.ca</a>
Secretary	Debbie Forbes <a href="mailto:debbiesforbes@sympatico.ca">debbiesforbes@sympatico.ca</a>
Treasurer	Peter Schulze <a href="mailto:pschulze@cogeco.ca">pschulze@cogeco.ca</a>
Directors	Rolly Astrom <a href="mailto:astroms@cogeco.ca">astroms@cogeco.ca</a> Ort Baldauf <a href="mailto:omnionone@hotmail.com">omnionone@hotmail.com</a> Jim Hamilton <a href="mailto:jhhamilton@sympatico.ca">jhhamilton@sympatico.ca</a> Glen Jones <a href="mailto:gjones76@cogeco.ca">gjones76@cogeco.ca</a> Andrzej Pradzynski <a href="mailto:a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca">a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca</a>

## 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](#).



## Group and Activity Coordinators

Annual Seminar	Frank Myers	<a href="mailto:fmyers4@gmail.com">fmyers4@gmail.com</a>
Arts Burlington	Dave Lawson/ Glen Jones	<a href="mailto:info@lawsonphoto.ca">info@lawsonphoto.ca</a> <a href="mailto:gjones76@cogeco.ca">gjones76@cogeco.ca</a>
AV Festival	Paul Sparrow	<a href="mailto:psparrow@cogeco.ca">psparrow@cogeco.ca</a>
B & W Group	Don Mallory	<a href="mailto:djmallory@teksavvy.com">djmallory@teksavvy.com</a>
BAC Communications	Ort Baldauf	<a href="mailto:omnionone@hotmail.com">omnionone@hotmail.com</a>
CAPA	Bob Walling	<a href="mailto:pho-tos.rwalling@cogeco.ca">pho-tos.rwalling@cogeco.ca</a>
Christmas Potluck	Bill Warren	<a href="mailto:wwarren5@cogeco.ca">wwarren5@cogeco.ca</a>
Christmas Sale		
Darkroom Lockers	Paul MacDiarmid	<a href="mailto:pmacdiarmid@cogeco.ca">pmacdiarmid@cogeco.ca</a>
Darkroom Maintenance	Bill Warren	<a href="mailto:wwarren5@cogeco.ca">wwarren5@cogeco.ca</a>
Digital Group	Paul Sparrow	<a href="mailto:psparrow@cogeco.ca">psparrow@cogeco.ca</a>
Evaluations	Virginia Stranaghan	<a href="mailto:evaluations@latow.com">evaluations@latow.com</a>
Fine Art & Craft Festival	Keith Marshall	<a href="mailto:kimarshall@cogeco.ca">kimarshall@cogeco.ca</a>
Fireside Displays, Group/Individual	Bill Warren/ Ed Franko	<a href="mailto:wwarren5@cogeco.ca">wwarren5@cogeco.ca</a> <a href="mailto:efranko2@cogeco.ca">efranko2@cogeco.ca</a>
Juried Show	Keith Marshall	<a href="mailto:kimarshall@cogeco.ca">kimarshall@cogeco.ca</a>
Kaleidoscope		
Membership	Claudette Mancini Debbie Forbes	<a href="mailto:pestarian@cogeco.ca">pestarian@cogeco.ca</a> <a href="mailto:debbies-forbes@sympatico.ca">debbies-forbes@sympatico.ca</a>
New Exposures	Marguerite Botting Don Munro	<a href="mailto:mbotting@cogeco.ca">mbotting@cogeco.ca</a> <a href="mailto:dcmunro@cogeco.ca">dcmunro@cogeco.ca</a>
Newsletter	Frank Myers	<a href="mailto:fmyers4@gmail.com">fmyers4@gmail.com</a>
One Day in the Life of Burlington	Paul Sparrow Toni & Bill Browning	<a href="mailto:psparrow@cogeco.ca">psparrow@cogeco.ca</a> Toni & Bill: 289-656-1519
Outings	Sandi Yacobucci	<a href="mailto:syacobucci@gmail.com">syacobucci@gmail.com</a>
Photo Art Group	Joh Friedrich	<a href="mailto:johfried@sympatico.ca">johfried@sympatico.ca</a>
Studio Group	Andrzej Pradzynski Dave Fernandes	<a href="mailto:a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca">a.pradzynski@cogeco.ca</a> <a href="mailto:david.nandes@gmail.com">david.nandes@gmail.com</a>
Three-Club Evening	Wayne Elliott	<a href="mailto:sunsetwind@cogeco.ca">sunsetwind@cogeco.ca</a>
Volunteer hours	Ort Baldauf	<a href="mailto:omnionone@hotmail.com">omnionone@hotmail.com</a>
Website	Paul Sparrow	<a href="mailto:psparrow@cogeco.ca">psparrow@cogeco.ca</a>

