



Shutterbug

NEWSLETTER

OCEANSIDE PHOTOGRAPHY SOCIETY WELCOMES VISITORS

Visitors may attend two free meetings before deciding to join. Please sign in at the membership desk as you enter. Iris, the Membership Director, can answer your questions about membership.

MASKS

Masks are encouraged but are optional.

MEETING TIMES

General Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 pm in the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre.

Education Meetings generally take place on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Windsor Room at the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre except during July, August and December. Since the pandemic Education meetings have been cancelled however we hope to reinstate them starting in the fall of 2022.



INTRODUCING NICK BOSMA

by Shelley Harynuk

You all may think you know Nick Bosma, our intrepid treasurer, who just turned 92 on the 26th of August this year but there's more to the man than meets the eye. It's funny how we spend time with people and yet we really don't know very much about them and what their life's journey has been. I had the privilege of having lunch with Nick and Richard Peeke Vout the other day and spent part of the afternoon interviewing Nick and thought you'd like to hear a bit more about the man who keeps an eye on the Club's cash flow.

So, as you've no doubt guessed, Nick was born in the Netherlands in 1930. When the war came, food and shelter became scarce so Nick's Dad tried to move his family further north where both were believed to be more abundant. Sadly the person who was assisting them had sold them out to the

Germans. They were captured and each taken away separately to different places. Nick's brother who was seven years older had been taken earlier so they had no idea where he was.

Although Nick was only 14 he was big and strong for his age so he was separated from his mother and father and at 14 was taken to a camp in Austria just 15 km from the Italian border along with a number of other young men from Holland, Belgium and France.

They wanted these young men to become boy soldiers basically. There was an issue however that they wanted them to sign a paper agreeing to join and be transferred to the Eastern Front. Nick had other ideas and refused to sign. Once Nick refused to sign a few of the other boys, mostly Dutch and Belgian also refused to sign. Shortly thereafter they put the boys who refused to sign on a train, destination unknown to them, He saw things on this journey that no young teenager should ever have to see.

They arrived in Berlin after a very circuitous train journey and ended up having to take shelter from the bombs in the Underground. Nick remembers hiding under the benches while the ceramic tiles fell all around him.

By now there were about 50 children both boys and girls who were taken from Berlin to a camp that previously held Russian prisoners in a small German town, now in Poland, There was no bedding so they were given bales of straw to use. Nick and two friends made better use of the straw bales and used them to scale the fence and escaped.

They managed to elude the Germans and with the help of kind strangers Nick eventually found himself in a small town where he secured a job at a hotel as a waiter.

While there Nick discovered that his mother was working at a factory not far from him so he managed to meet up with her and they made their way back to Holland. They found his father and much later, after the war, found his older brother who had his own adventures driving the car of a ranking German soldier. What a gift it was that the whole family was able to reunite.

After the war Nick tried going back to school but it wasn't a good fit after all he had been through so he did some night school and tried a couple of unsatisfying jobs. One night his Uncle spotted a newspaper ad looking for a young man to work at the Canadian Embassy. Nick applied and was lucky enough to get the job. When he went for the interview there were about 25 other young men waiting to be interviewed but he was among the first to be taken up to see the Ambassador. As it turned out he received notice the next day that he had won the job and he also won the hearts of many of the staff over the next four years.

During his time at the Embassy Nick met the Dutch Queen and Winston Churchill, Queen Julianna and Prince Bernard knew Nick by his first name as he met them many times while assisting at staff cocktail parties and other events.

He was given the opportunity to emigrate to Canada in the summer of 1950 so he got all his papers together and on September 5th 1950 began his 22 day ship's journey to Canada. He was seasick every moment of it.

Although he arrived in Montreal he paid \$11.35 to take a train to Toronto where he introduced himself to the immigration official who was a friend of someone from the Embassy in The Hague. The official asked Nick what he wanted to do for work and Nick said he wasn't sure but that he was interested in photography. His Dad had been interested in photography and enjoyed taking family photos which were all unfortunately lost.

Well, the chap said that he knew a photographer in Ottawa and would call him to see if he needed someone to work for him, so he phoned Yousuf Karsh. He was willing to take Nick on as an apprentice but they could only pay \$12.50 a week and Nick was already paying \$14.00 a week room and board so he turned the job down. Opportunities lost.

Nick took a number of jobs to make ends meet from digging carrots to using a jackhammer for the digging of the Toronto Subway to working in an insane asylum (as they were called in the early 1950s) as an orderly. He said it was terrible in so many ways and he just couldn't stay.

He soon answered an ad in the newspaper calling for miners in the Yukon. Nick took a three day train trip to Edmonton, arriving in the depth of winter. He then flew from Edmonton to Whitehorse and made his way to Mayo where he was a miner's helper. After about two months there was an opportunity for him to become either a pipe fitters apprentice or an electrical apprentice. He had heard though that the pipe fitter's apprentice allowed for lots of overtime and jumped at that profession. He didn't have a day off in two years.

While working for the mining company Nick made contact with one of the Chinese cooks who introduced him to a camera company in Vancouver on Granville St. and Nick ended up selling cameras for them in the Yukon. He was able to get himself a camera for next to nothing out of the arrangement and his enjoyment of photography kicked in. His first camera was a German Voigtlander.

After his two years Nick and his girlfriend in Holland were ready to marry so he sent her the money to fly to Canada. As he was an hourly worker rather than a salaried employee they didn't provide married quarters at the mine so they married in Whitehorse. Nick left the mine and started his plumbing business. He was 22 and she was 19 - it seemed he had already lived a lifetime.

Upon leaving the mines he joined the army militia and spent four years in Whitehorse working for them later leaving and moving to Calgary where he decided to leave the militia as he didn't feel he fit in quite so well.

SUBMISSIONS

The newsletter team welcomes suggestions, questions, ideas and photos that illustrate club activities.

Sold an image? Exhibiting? Win a photo contest? Been travelling and have a story and images to share? Other members would be interested in hearing about it.

Please send material to the newsletter at:

newsletter.opc@gmail.com

FRAGRANCE FREE

Due to allergies, asthma and other conditions, we request that you do not use any fragrance when attending club meetings.

REMINDER

If you haven't already done so please pay your 2022 membership fees. This Covid year the fees are reduced from \$40.00 to \$20.00 to reflect a reduction in services. The easiest way to pay is by electronic transfer to:

treasure.opc@gmail.com

Note: it is treasure not treasurer

Any questions about the Newsletter should be directed to:

Editor - Shelley Harynuk

newsletter.opc@gmail.com

After a number of gas fitter jobs in and around Alberta Nick took a job in Prince Rupert at a pulp mill for about seven years and then finally worked for the BC Provincial Government as a gas inspector until his retirement. His last posting prior to retirement was Nanaimo as inspector for Vancouver Island. Two of Nick's three children lived on the island so this worked out perfectly for him and his wife.

Nick is a Nikon guy and has been for many many years. He has mostly been drawn to landscapes as he admits he doesn't have the patience for wildlife photography. He has been part of our Club for many years and we hope for many years to come. There were many anecdotes that accompanied the stories he told, far too many to tell here and very colourful. I'm sure he'd love to recount them and don't be afraid to ask. He's a man among men and we are lucky to have him as part of our Club.



A little bit of Nick Bosma's camera collection accumulated over the years.

BEACHFEST

By Jack Harynuik



After a two year absence, the sand sculpture competition, Beachfest, returned to Parksville. Shelley and I were volunteer photographers in 2018 and 2019; we were asked if we would participate again this year. It is a time commitment that requires going to the site, often twice a day during the construction period to capture specific activities - 'pound-up', carving, opening ceremonies, the final sculptures, the sculptors and the awards.

The theme for this year was Roaring Twenties and provided a wide range of imaginative works in sand. There were plans for up to 27 sculptors to attend and they work as a solo artist or as a team of two. The sculptors came from Holland, Japan, the USA, Canada and one recent refugee from the Ukraine. Team sculptors are often from different locations who develop a plan for their work, arrive at the destination to build their sculpture and then move on to another competition.

This year, Covid prevented three sculptors from attending leaving two team members without partners or a plan. The Beachfest organizers reworked the site, set aside one plot of sand as a play area and allowed the two orphaned sculptors to team up without a plan. There are serious awards for the sculptors as over \$45,000 was handed out in prizes to solo and team artists in a

range of categories. The first place team and competitor choice winners were the two women who joined forces as first time partners.



it's a bit of a walk to get to the Beachfest site and Shelley's sore back wasn't going to improve with that hike. We decided to share the work, whereby, I'd do the shooting and she would handle the post processing. Our son and his family were visiting from Edmonton at the same time and our grandkids asked if they could come along. It is a construction site and you do have to be careful during the first days so I agreed to take our 11 year old granddaughter, Stella, for the opening ceremonies.

Stella hasn't used a camera other than an iPad and doesn't have one. She will be going to a week long photography camp/workshop when she returns to Edmonton. Her dad is letting her use his very old Nikon 300 (no comment about that from me). Shelley kindly offered Stella the use of her Sony RX camera and I provided a few suggestions - think about what you want to see, collect everything you want in the frame and don't be shy about shooting in close. She was totally comfortable taking shots; Shelley uploaded 122 of her images to my 47 or 48. Shelley even did a comparison of a couple of our competing images and I didn't win.

It has been a fun outing, I enjoyed getting back to speak to a few of the sculptors from past years and see how they do their detailed work with the sand. Being a volunteer also provides admission (with permission) in the off hours when there are no people wandering about. I've been allowed to go for blue hour photography and very late night shooting when the sculptures are lit with coloured lights.

There are about 400 images in our photo site with folders for each activity and one folder of Stella's favourites. The images are made available to Beachfest and the sculptors to download for a couple of months. Below are also links to the Beachfest site and a Times article with more information.

Our photo site - <https://harynukphotography.zenfolio.com/f330242270>

Beachfest website - parksvillebeachfest.ca

Times Colonist Article - <https://www.timescolonist.com/local-news/parksville-beach-fest-returning-this-summer-after-pandemic-hiatus-5328577>

WAYNE DUKE PHOTOGRAPHIC SAFARI - NAMIBIA AND BOTSWANA GUIDED SAFARI

Wayne Duke asked me to include a link to an African safari he is leading in November 2023



<https://wetu.com/Itinerary/Overview/44d8f80f-8eaa-4a38-a5b6-afbd7523e6ac>

NEED FOR AN EXHIBITS COORDINATOR

OPC has committed to an exhibit at the MAC (Macmillan Arts Centre) in February 2022. A person is needed to coordinate the exhibit. This primarily entails liaison between the MAC and the photographers participating in the show. Guidance is available from past members. Please phone me 250-951-0413 or email me at rjhorte@gmail.com

PHOTO GIFTS: THINKING BEYOND THE FRAME

by Frieda Van der Ree

There are so many ways – from classic to kitschy, from funky to fun – that image files on our hard drives can be turned into thoughtful, personalized gift items. With Christmas just around the bend now is a good time to consider some of the possibilities.

The photo as displayable art... The classic photo gift is a gallery-quality image for formal display: a shot you are proud of having taken and that has been printed, matted, and framed with particular care. In a perfect world, one of your favourite people will see it and say “Ooh, I’d love to have that hanging on my wall!”

Your role in making this happen doesn’t stop with the image capture; choices go far beyond frame design and matte colour. Will you print on photo paper, aluminum, or canvas? If frameless, will you choose gallery wrap or a solid colour edge? And if one is good, more is better, right? A grouping of prints linked by subject or style or colour tone can make an eye-catching display. You’ll also want to consider the intended recipient’s taste whether in subject or presentation, to make this a truly personalized gift.

A coffee-table book of your photographic art is another way to go, one that offers lots of scope for creativity and customization. You, the book designer, can call the shots on the shape and look and quality of the book. What size and proportions? Softcover or hardcover? If hard, then maybe a dust jacket? Lay-flat pages that allow an image to smoothly cover two pages? Think about font choices for headings and labels, and think especially about paper quality and colour reproduction, to do justice to your carefully curated collection of prints.

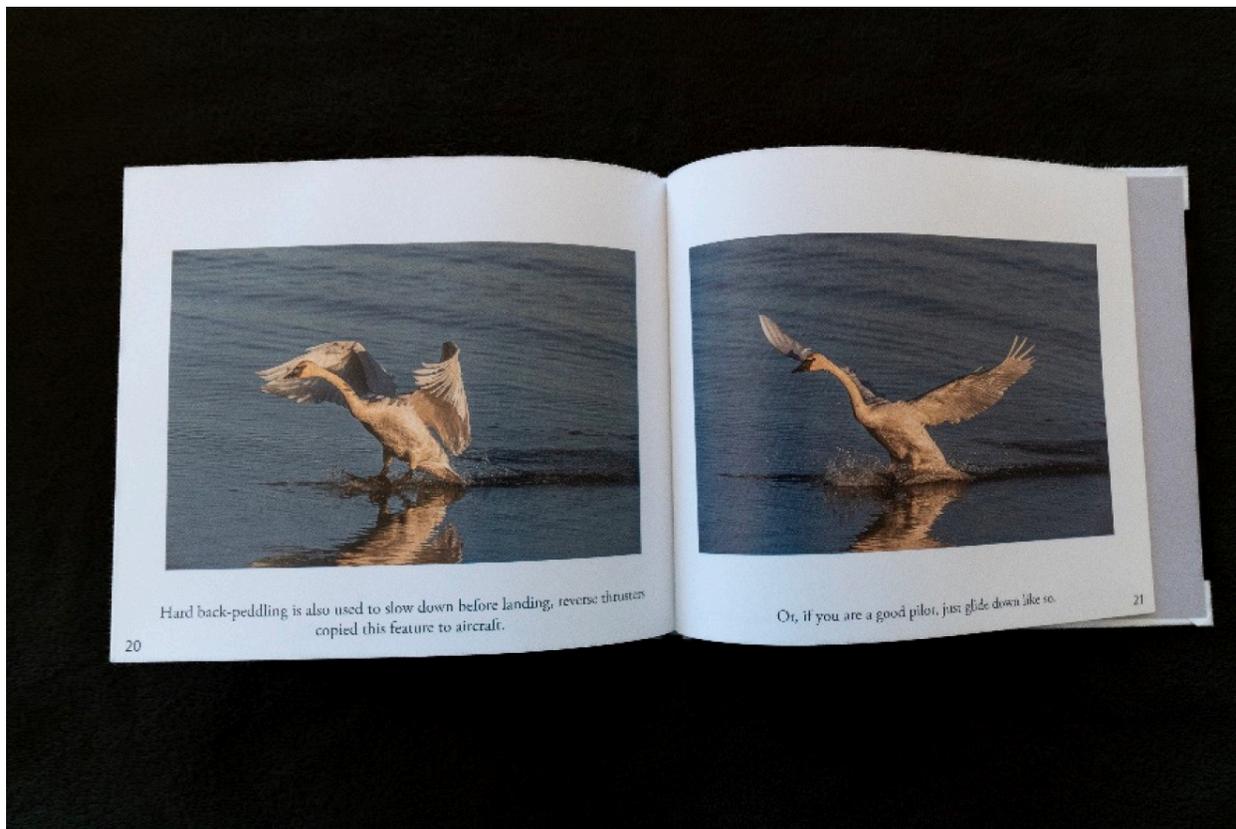
So many choices, not the least being – which photo book service to use. I’ve used Shutterfly and Vistaprint in the past and been happy with the results, but there are other choices. For quality befitting an art photo book, Mixbook is tops in a review by Wirecutter; Tom’s Guide selects Printique as tops with Mixbook coming a close second. These reviews considered factors such as image reproduction, binding quality, versatility of software and range of tools and templates.

Photo book gifts aren’t only for fine art prints. Each time my grandchildren came from England to visit us, I compiled a photo book recording the things we did together as a souvenir for them, and for us.

A gift book of your candid behind-the-scenes wedding shots would make a fun counterpoint to the more formal photos taken by a professional wedding photographer. You could add clipart, comments, and speech bubbles to really take this over the top!

John Critchley, drawing on his background as a pilot and flight instructor, injected humour into his photo book of trumpeter swans in flight with captions that comment on their flight techniques. It’s a book anyone would enjoy curling up with.

Cliff and Carol Anderson raise the bar when it comes to photo book gifts for grandchildren. Drawing on Cliff’s vast (and well organized!) store of images and Carol’s words, they have created photo books geared toward the various ages and interests of their grandchildren. They have made ABC books, counting books, and a ‘twinning’ book that matches the child’s activity



From John Critchley's photo book "Swanning About"

(yawning, stretching, making a face) with that of another family member or animal. There's a book of birds, and one of flowers. My favourite is a children's storybook they created around a series of photos Cliff took of two bear cubs playing. The cubs are given names and characters and a storyline with, of course, a happy ending.

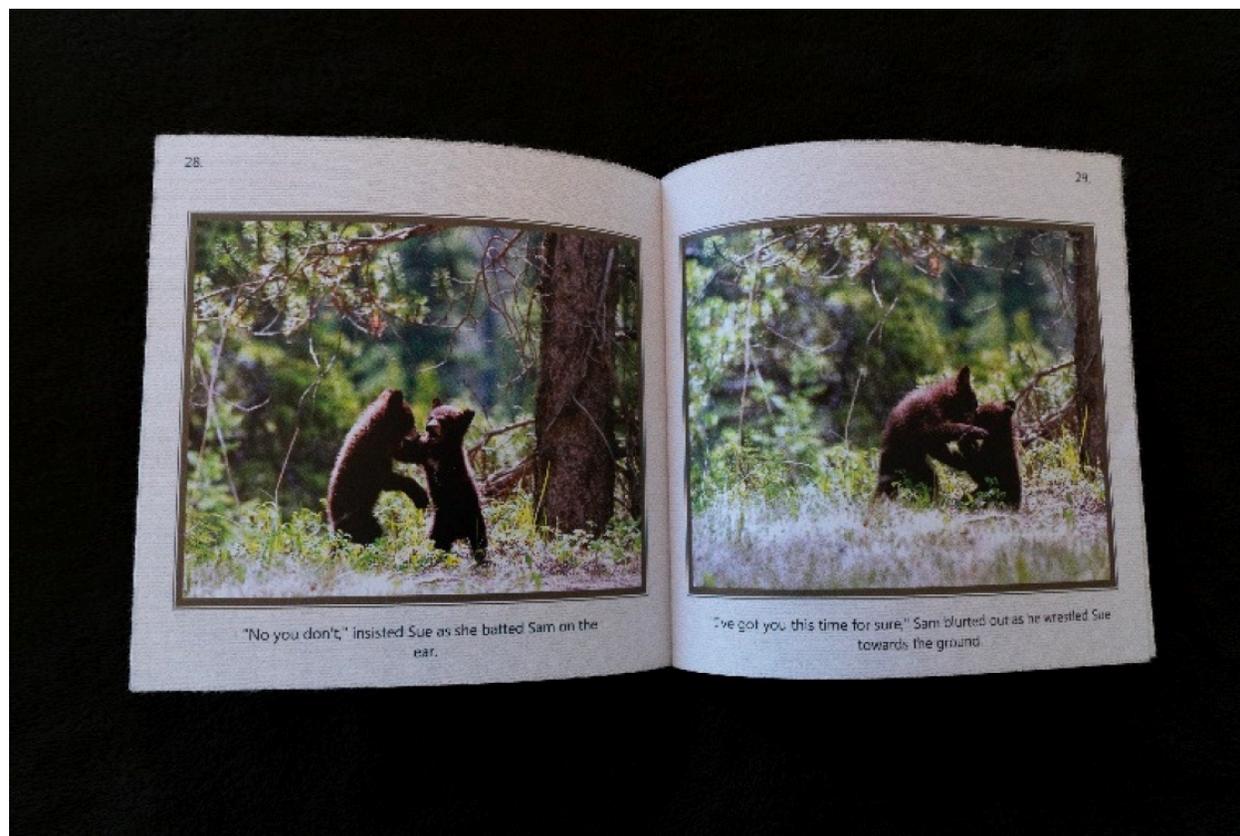
Think cookbooks! You could pair family favourite recipes with photos taken at family events or polish your own talents as a food photographer to illustrate the pages.

Photos as keepsakes... You can't go wrong giving shots of the kids to their grandparents, no matter in what form you present them: images framed small or large or collected in albums or photo books or photo frames.

In my family the Family Photo Calendar has become a Christmas tradition that we all treasure. Each year my daughter-in-law compiles a calendar that features the members of one household for each of the twelve months. The photos are ones she's taken of us throughout the year augmented by ones we send her. The object is to reflect our activities and interests of the past year – a new boat? a new baby? Each household is given a copy of the calendar for Christmas. I save each one as a record of how our clan has changed and grown over the years.

<https://www.digitalcameraworld.com/buying-guides/best-photo-calendars>

Whether of a personal nature or not, photos are basically graphic elements that can be printed on an amazing variety of materials (wood, glass, ceramic, canvas, cotton) to make any number



From Cliff and Carol Anderson's photo book "The Sunshine Bears"

of gifts that are wearable (aprons, t-shirts) usable (canvas totes, cushions, coasters) or just downright crazy fun, like the "magic mug". This is a ceramic mug that appears plain matte black until filled with a hot liquid, then images and words printed on the mug will magically reveal themselves. How cool is that?

Puzzle gifts...Some of us have given or received photo jigsaw puzzles, but Jack Harynuik took the idea a step further with his 1000-piece jigsaw of a mirror-image photo. Imagine the difficulty of that one! For an overview of top puzzle-printing services see this review by [Artlex](#). Or you could challenge the puzzle-lover in your life with a Rubik's cube featuring a different image to solve on each of the six sides.

Extra points for hand-made gifts! Some gifts – with the right materials and know-how – have DIY possibilities. With an inkjet printer and Avery t-shirt transfers you can place one of your images onto a (mostly) cotton fabric item such as a t-shirt or apron. Note that Avery produces one type of transfer for use with light-coloured fabrics and one for darker ones.

Photo tiles can make attractive gifts whether they are professionally printed or home-made. A few years ago, my granddaughter and her husband gifted photo tiles they had made. Each tile displayed a B/W photo Matt had taken that related in some way to the interests of the recipients. Michael and I liked rambling walks, so our tile depicted a hiking trail scene. The tiles were 6x6 inches with a plain matte surface, the inexpensive kind available at almost any home improvement store; the prints were transferred onto the tiles using the Mod Podge method.

Ours was for display only but if the tile is to be used as a coaster or trivet, it should be coated with a clear acrylic sealer to protect the picture from heat and water damage. See <https://www.shutterfly.com/home-decor/photo-tiles/> for custom-made tiles options or [DIY photo tiles](#) for a detailed YouTube guide on making your own.

Your post-processing talents could be used to create some unique gifts. What teenager (and many an adult) wouldn't love a poster-size print of themselves done pop-art or cartoon style? See some examples at <https://www.poparted.co.uk/>

Or you could create a table-top tableau with your youngster's action figures and print it poster-size in over-the-moon colours. My great-grandson is into dinosaurs and I'm already thinking of the possibilities...

Time to put on a Santa hat and start creating!

Some of the photo gifts in my house...family photo calendars, a Father's Day photo mug, a photo puzzle commemorating a family hike, and a photo book of our grandkids' visit.

Note: Online companies that offer customized photo gifts are too numerous to list but are easily found in google searches. Also, don't forget to check chain outlets such as Costco, Walmart and Staples, where you may find personalized photo items at lower prices.

LIONS GATE WILDLIFE PHOTO COMPETITION

The Celebration of Nature Photography is an annual event, this year in its seventeenth year, sponsored by the Lions Gate Camera Club. The event is designed to encourage excellence in nature photography in a competitive format, for photographers in British Columbia and Yukon Territory. The competition is based on photography in the natural environment with no "hand of man" and minimal post processing. Competition winners may be required to provide original RAW files. There are 4 categories, **botanical, nature, landscape and wildlife**.

All images submitted for this competition will be judged by a panel of three leading nature photographers completely independent of Lions Gate Camera Club. Each club is invited to submit up to six images of our natural world.

Each OPS member is invited to submit one photograph which will be voted on by the club membership. The top six images will be presented at the November meeting.

MAC EXHIBIT

by Gail Courtice

Great Opportunity to Display your Work

Oceanside Photographers are having an exhibit at the Mac in February 2023. The title of the exhibit is PHOTOGRAPHERS IN FOCUS. We hope that many of you will exhibit your masterpieces. As you can see the title means virtually any subject you like. Our President Rick will talk about it in more detail at September's general meeting.

To exhibit your work you must be a fully paid up member of the club.

Framed, canvas, metal are all okay. BUT must have wire for easy hanging.

The commission on sold work is 35%.

In November I will want to know the size of your work, the title of the picture, the price and a brief artist's statement.

You may submit one image to start as we see how many wish to exhibit. You may contact me at my PERSONAL EMAIL, to be found in the members section of the club's website or ask me at the meeting.

Let's make this a big success. A big thank you to Lynn Page for getting us the venue.

ASSIGNMENT WINNERS - JULY

COLOUR



First Place

Heading for Home

Bob Christopher



Second Place

BMX

Roy Watts

Third Place

Drivin'

Bob Jackson



ASSIGNMENT WINNERS - JULY

BLACK AND WHITE

First Place

Giddy Up

Bob Christopher



Second Place

Got It!

Iris Schurz



Third Place

Quite a wind!

Peter Abley



ASSIGNMENT WINNERS - JULY

DIGITAL ART



First Place

And the Race is On

Bob Christopher

Second Place

Surfs Up!

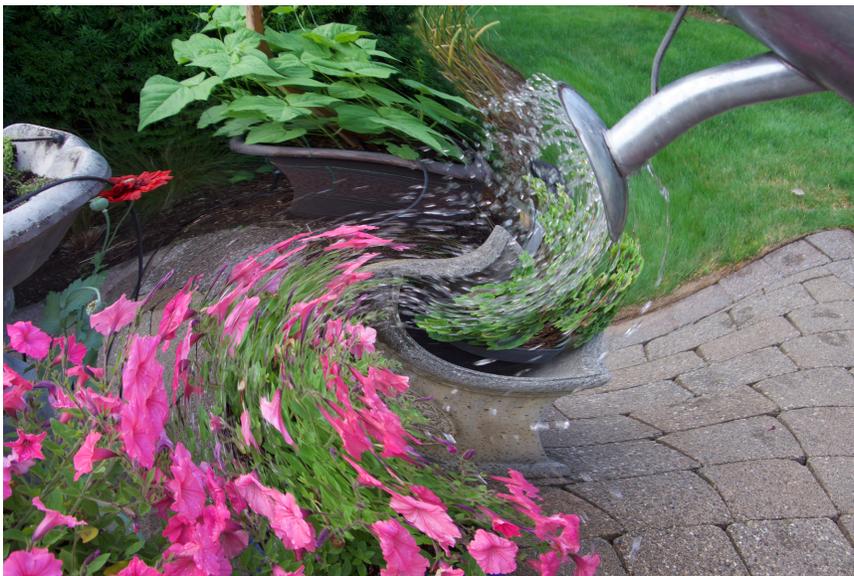
Iris Schurz



Third Place - Tie

Watering

Mary Watts



Third Place - Tie

Dancing Water

Roy Watts

