

IN FOCUS

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Cover Photo by: Nora Mathewson

President's Message - Scott Simons

A warm welcome to all our returning members and a special welcome to our new members. It will certainly be great to see all of you again and to meet new friends too.

It was a short, busy summer. Between raindrops, tornadoes and heat waves, a fair amount of shooting took place judging by our FaceBook page. I can't wait to see more of what you have created in our monthly Competitions.

This season is a special one for NAPA as it's our 70th year of operation. Something we should all be very proud of. A lot of organizations have come and gone over the years, but we are still here and stronger than ever. Our membership topped out at 65 last year which is something we haven't seen in a very long time. On September 30th we will have a special start to our meeting with dignitaries and media in attendance. We are planning to start at 6:30 before our regular meeting at 7:00.

After a few weeks break this spring, your Executive has been hard at work getting things ready for the upcoming season, Karen Fulham has done another fantastic job at creating a program that is suitable for all. Please pay close attention to dates and times and if the meeting is in person or on Zoom. We do understand that Zoom meetings are not ideal, but they allow us to go outside the region and bring in speakers from literally anywhere.

Our Fall Seminar with David Akoubian, will take place on Saturday, November 2nd and Sunday, November 3rd. You will definitely be hearing more about this event in the upcoming weeks, as we ask for volunteers to help out on the days of the seminar. Virginia Stranaghan has done a great job putting this event together for us.

Outings continued to be a big part of everyone's summertime photography activities and will continue into the fall and winter. Many thanks to Linette Mori and Dave Bauer for putting together an interesting and varied list of activities for us to enjoy.

For those looking for a reason to get out and shoot, have a look at the challenge we have put together. See the links and more details below. I encourage everyone to give it a try and see what you come up with.

The Executive has also made some well-thought-out changes to our monthly competition rules, effective this season. The details are below.

I'm looking forward to getting re-acquainted with everyone this season and seeing the results of your hard work over the summer. Once again, we are at the beginning of another wonderful NAPA season. With your help and input, I have no doubt that it will be a great one.

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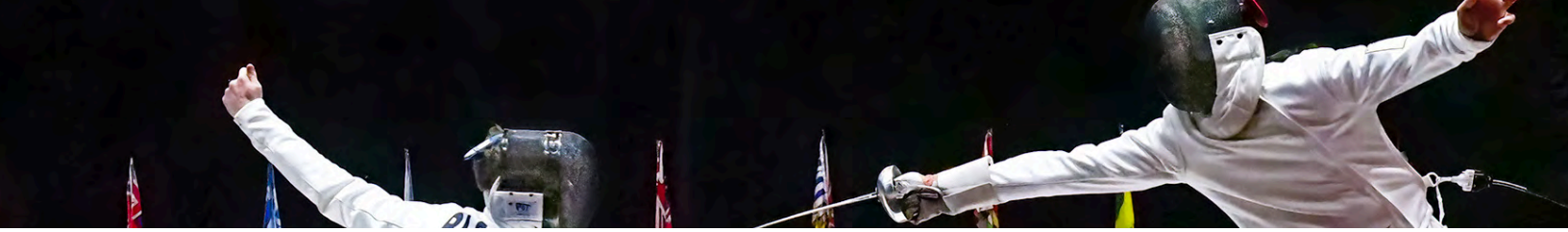
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A Few Loose Ends

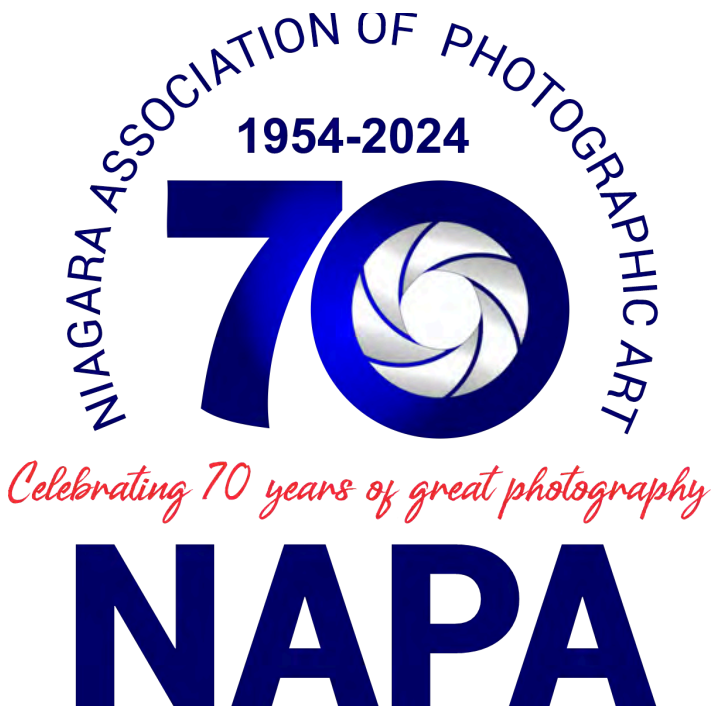
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70th Anniversary



As a result of our name change in 2023, a new NAPA logo was created recently along with a 70th Anniversary logo to commemorate that milestone of our esteemed organization. It was Ron Planche who came up with the initial designs and in meetings with Scott and Chris, the three of them fine-tuned the designs to come up with the final logos that you see above.

Membership

Membership for our club is \$60 per person and \$100 for two adult members considered spouses. The membership dues can be paid by cash, cheque or by e-transfer. E-transfers can be emailed to Michelle at mstranges@niagaraphoto.org - no password is required.

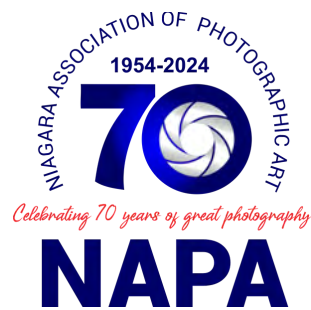
Membership is required to participate in the Niagara Association of Photographic Art activities. We invite prospective guests to try out the club for a few meetings.



Annual Program

- Monday, September 16, 2024 - Peter Ferguson- “Exploring iPhone Photography: The Journey Continues”
- Monday September 30, 2024 - Competition #1
- Tuesday, October 15, 2024 - Thomas Stirr- “Finding Visual Expression”
- Monday October 28, 2024 - Competition #2
- Saturday, November 2, 2024 - Fall Seminar Featuring David Akoubian
- Sunday, November 3, 2024 - Macro Photography Workshop with David Akoubian (Sold Out)
- Monday, November 4, 2024 - Monique Campbell- “Faces in the Street, Candid and Camera Aware People Photography”
- Thursday, November 7, 2024 - David Long (Via Zoom) – “Creating Landscapes”
- Monday November 18, 2024 - Competition #3
- Monday, December 2, 2024 - Ruth Wanless- “Just Play”
- Thursday, December 5, 2024- Chris McInnis (Via Zoom) – “It’s The Little Things”
- Monday, December 9, 2024 - Potluck and Competition #4 – Early start
- Thursday, January 2, 2025 - Betsy Wilson (Via Zoom) – “Still Life – Beyond Fruit Bowls and Flowers”
- Monday, January 6, 2025 - Juraj Dolanjski- “Art in Monochrome”
- Monday, January 13 - Gareth Jones (via Zoom) “Creative Imagery: My View and My Journey”
- Monday, January 20, 2025 - Sue Dougherty (via Zoom) “Pumas of Patagonia”
- Monday, January 27, 2025 - Competition #5
- Monday, February 3, 2025 - Freatography – “4 Days in Saskatchewan: Ghost Towns, Abandoned Houses, Wild Fires and More”
- Tuesday, February 18, 2025 - Competition #6
- Thursday, February 20, 2025 - Frank Smith (via Zoom) – Architecture & the Art of Graphic Elements
- Monday, March 3, 2025 - Member’s Night
- Monday, March 17, 2025 - End of Year Competition
- April (TBD) - Rainbow Competition at TCCC

Many thanks to Karen Fulham for another outstanding roster of presentations this year.



Competition Rule Changes Effective 2024-25 Season

A competition review committee was set up over the summer consisting of Virginia Stranaghan, Ron Planche, Larry Mathewson, Chris Empey and Scott Simons. All the rules of our competition were looked at regarding divisions, scoring and advancement. Proposed changes were recommended to the Executive and adopted with an effective start date of September 1st, 2024. The changes are highlighted below and have also been updated in our handbook.

Scoring change:

There will no longer be a 3-point bonus for Honour Awards.

The 1-point bonus for a 2nd category entered will remain to encourage more varied entries.

Advancement changes:

Currently, you require an Honour Award (HA) in 5 out of 12 entries in a single season to advance from Bronze to Silver and Silver to Gold. That is a less than 50 % requirement to advance. It should at least be 50 % and then some. The new advancement requirements are as follows.

Bronze to Silver – 7 HA's

Silver to Gold - 8 HA's

Gold to Diamond was previously the top score only, will now be 9 HA's.

We feel the new changes will better reflect the outcomes of the competitions, encourage advancement in photographic skills as more HA's will be needed to advance to the next levels and reduce the penalty of missing an HA by eliminating the HA bonus.



Scoring Guidelines for Judges and Competitors

Chris has been working on scoring guidelines that will provide judges with a little guidance to try and help keep them more consistent from month to month while at the same time giving our members an idea of why an image may have scored what it did. The guidelines show a scoring range of 9 to 15 and why the image rates the score.

- 9 - Below Average. The image shows significant faults in composition and technique
- 10 - Average, undistinguished; unmemorable. Shows minor faults. Lots of room for improvement in composition, interpretation, etc.
- 11 - Good. Competent: technically satisfactory, but lacking in impact, interest, strength of composition, etc.
- 12 - Very good, but falls short of an excellent rating.
- 13 - Excellent. Demonstrates photography mastery; a memorable picture.
- 14 - Outstanding; dramatic; beautiful; technically superb; very strong impact
- 15 - Unique; outstanding; stunning; flawless

September Presentation

Monday, September 16, 2024

Peter Ferguson- “Exploring iPhone Photography: The Journey Continues”

For the past 18 months, Peter has been solely using an iPhone for his photographic 'journey'. This presentation will examine the benefits and the annoyances of relying on the phone as your one and only camera. Imagery from nature and travel scenery to portraits and action shots highlights the program. A live in-phone examination of apps and settings will be presented and discussed. (Stay tuned for the “Cell Phone Challenge- we want to see your best cellphone shots on Member’s Night!)

Inspiration Challenge

THE INSPIRATIONAL CHALLENGE IS BACK TO INSPIRE YOU TO TRY SOMETHING YOU HAVEN’T DONE BEFORE AND HAVE A LITTLE FUN.

[**CLICK FOR CHALLENGE**](#)

Rainbow Competition - April 15, 2024

We hosted the Twin City Camera Club of Tonawanda NY for the annual competition, with each club entering 70 digital images. There were 12 finalists. The 5 NAPA entries 1st Place are below. Clockwise from top - 1st place_Jeffrey Hayward_Orb Weaver Spider with Prey, Michael Todd_Bow Lake, AB., Chris Empey_Green Darner, Paula Cheese_Watkins (1), Scott Simons_Pink Edged Sulpher, Nora Mathewson_Fencing Gold Medal.

