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# IN FOCUS

[www.niagaraphoto.org](http://www.niagaraphoto.org)

## Upcoming Programs

Monday, March 9, 2026- Image of the Year Selections Due

Monday, March 17, 2026 - Mitchell Brown- ["Smoke is Showing. Capturing Courage and Sacrifice"](#)

Monday, March 23, 2026 - **Image of the Year Competition**

Thursday, March 26, 2026 - Blootland in OZ Outing (See Page 7 below)

Monday, April 6, 2026 - **Rainbow Competition Hosted by NAPA**

Tuesday, April 21, 2026 - Short Hills Hike Outing (See Page 8 below)

Saturday, April 25, 2026 - Year-End Banquet - Betty's Restaurant.

### **Monday, March 17, 2026 - Mitchell Brown - Smoke is Showing. Capturing Courage and Sacrifice**

Fire photography isn't just about flames or destruction—it's about resilience, teamwork, sacrifice, and documenting moments that are often intense, fleeting, and deeply human. Whether it's a training exercise, a structure fire, or a solemn firefighter funeral, Mitchell's goal is to tell the story with respect, authenticity, and emotional weight—capturing not just what's happening, but why it matters.

### **Image of the Year Competition**

These competitions are open to all members who have competed this year. You may enter 4 Digital Images, 4 Colour Prints and 4 Monochrome Prints. These images must be the same images you entered this year without modifications of any kind.

For the four digital images, please email the names or numbers of your selections to [Chris \[digital@NiagaraPhoto.org\]\(mailto:Chris.digital@NiagaraPhoto.org\)](mailto:Chris.digital@NiagaraPhoto.org). He does not need the actual images; just the names will do, as he already has them. They **MUST** be received by Midnight on March 9 in order to be entered in the competition.

For the prints, please bring your four colour and/or four monochrome images on the night of the competition.

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# Digital Competition

Bronze	Entries	Honour	Score
Janice White *	12	12	158
Shirley Cove *	12	12	156
Stephen Hopkins *	12	12	154
Linda Hardaker *	12	12	149
Wendy Jenkinson *	12	11	147
Alex Vandenburg *	12	12	143
Brenda Burger *	12	11	142
Esther Wong *	12	10	140
Lori Lyons *	8	8	105

Silver	Entries	Honour	Score
Desmond Edwards *	12	11	154
Jacques Dion *	12	12	146
Bruce Horsburgh	8	5	93

Gold	Entries	Honour	Score
Kelly Herbert *	12	9	147
Doug Reilly	12	8	142
Lorraine Pichette	10	3	116
Bob Jones	6	3	69
Linda Casement	4	2	47
Joni Carpenter	2	2	25

\* Denotes Promotion to the next Level



## Digital Competition - Continued

Diamond	Entries	Honour	Score
<b>Terry Rotella *</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>166</b>
<b>Linette Mori</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>163</b>
<b>Ron Planche *</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Paula Cheese</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>162</b>
<b>Nora Mathison</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>161</b>
<b>Dave Merrow</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>Karen Fulham</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>Ruth Wanless</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>Virginia Macdonald</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>159</b>
<b>Larry Mathewson</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>157</b>
<b>Michelle Stranges</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>156</b>
<b>Paula Chiasson</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>Susan Dayboll</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>155</b>
<b>Stephen Hops</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>Derek Bottomley</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>Chris Lofquist</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>149</b>
<b>Molly Clarkson</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Ron Wing</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>146</b>
<b>Charles Vandersluys</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>Henry Wojnarowski</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Pearl Basco</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Bruno Campagiomi</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>48</b>

Platinum	Entries	Honour	Score
<b>Kathy Heykoop</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>167</b>
<b>Scott Simons</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>166</b>
<b>Chris Empey</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>165</b>
<b>Dave Bauer</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>165</b>
<b>Ela Masse</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>163</b>
<b>Ian Mather</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>154</b>

\* Denotes Promotion to the next Level



# Print Competition

## Black & White/Mono

Bronze	Entries	Honour	Score
Ted Kretz	3	3	34
Janice White	2	1	25
Lori Lyons	1	1	14
Bruce Horsburgh	1	1	12

Gold	Entries	Honour	Score
Susan Dayboll *	12	8	150
Doug Reilly *	12	8	145
Derek Bottomley	6	5	76

Diamond	Entries	Honour	Score
Ron Planche *	12	10	167
Dave Merrow	12	6	154
Ian Mather	4	2	49
Ruth Wanless	2	0	24

## Colour

Bronze	Entries	Honour	Score
Jacques Dion *	12	12	143
Ted Kretz *	12	12	141
Bruce Horsburgh *	10	10	121
Janice White	4	3	50
Lori Lyons	2	2	26
Linda Hardaker	1	1	12

Gold	Entries	Honour	Score
Derek Bottomley *	12	11	159
Susan Dayboll *	12	8	153
Doug Reilly	12	6	149

Diamond	Entries	Honour	Score
Ian Mather	12	6	157
Dave Merrow	12	6	153

Platinum	Entries	Honour	Score
Ron Planche	12	8	162

\* Denotes Promotion to the next Level

# Judge's Pick from the February Competition

Wait For Me Mom!! by Ela Masse



## **Ela explains:**

“In 2024, I had the incredible opportunity to travel to South Africa for a photography safari organized by Follow Me North. This image of the baby elephant was taken while I was staying at RockFig Safari Lodge, located in the Timbavati Game Reserve next to Kruger National Park. The animals roamed freely between the two reserves.

While on an afternoon game drive, we encountered a herd of elephants or “ellies” as they’re often called there. Our guide quietly stopped the vehicle and positioned us perfectly so we could photograph the elephants without disturbing them. As we watched, I noticed a mother elephant and her calf. The moment was so tender and powerful. When the mother moved ahead, the little one started to run to catch up. The background was clean and free of distractions. I was able to capture several frames as it ran, but this one was my favourite.”

The image was taken with a Sony A7R V, 70-200mm lens at 138mm, 1/1000 sec, f/2.8, ISO 200.

## Running for Their Lives by Dave Bauer



“While in Tanzania with friends on a photo safari, we spent four days in the Serengeti National Park. The park was still experiencing the dry season, so watering holes and rivers were shared by many animals. These Wildebeest and Zebras, who travel together for mutual benefit, were carefully wading into the water in a narrow river bed, all the while watching and listening for danger.

These waters are also shared with the native Crocodiles so animals are very wary of any objects or movements in the water. Something must have spooked the lead animals, as one minute they were peacefully wading into the river, the next, a mass exodus, as if running for their lives. Luckily, I was able to capture some of the excitement as they splashed through the water to safety.”

The photo was taken with a Canon R7 with EF 100-400 L IS lens at 200mm, ISO 200 f 5.6 1/640 sec.

# Note From the Executive

The NAPA Executive team has been very busy behind the scenes, working on several projects, a couple of which you will see below.

On Wednesday, Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>, you received an email "NAPA: Important Info Inside". If you haven't seen it, check your email Spam or Junk folders.

## Member Survey

Here at NAPA, we strive to fulfil your expectations. To help us, we need your input on how we as a club are doing and how we can better serve your needs.

If you haven't already, please open the email mentioned above and click on the link it contains to open the survey. Please carefully consider the questions and complete them within the next few days. All the findings will be analyzed, and we will let you know the results and what actions come from your input.

## Proposed Changes to NAPA Constitution

For those who were not at the meeting on Monday, February 23rd, our current Constitution and By-Laws, which govern how we are run, are 30 years old and have not been updated since then.

A working group has been formed and has prepared a new set of documents that will govern how we operate.

For you, the club member, these changes are not major, but for the executive and how we operate (especially if there are any disagreements) they are quite important.

## Main Changes of the Draft Constitution

- Roles and responsibilities removed from the Constitution and incorporated in Bylaws Appendix A.
- The Executive are responsible for expanding or reducing the number of Executive positions by a majority vote of the Executive, and the change is incorporated into the proposed By-Laws.
- The Code of Conduct is included in Article III.

Please download and read the [Proposed Changes to NAPA Constitution \(Click to Download\)](#). Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

We can discuss concerns on Monday, March 9th. We will then vote on accepting the Proposed Changes on March 23rd.



**MACLEAN AUTO WRECKERS  
12584 FOURTH LINE NASSAGAWEYA, ROCKWOOD, ON**

**Thursday, March 21, 2026**

**McLean Auto Wreckers is a very large vintage auto yard which has a wide variety of unique vehicles spanning several decades. They've been on the property so long that the trees have grown around and through the vehicle skeletons.**

**The trip will take most of the day, so bring lunch and liquids. Parking is at a premium, so carpooling is necessary. No parking is allowed on the roadside. We will meet at the Glendale Ave Carpool Lot at 8:30, in order to arrive at our destination around 10:00 a.m.**

**We'll collect \$10 per person at the location before entering as an honorarium to the owners. All members will be required to sign a liability waiver before entering the property. Winter-type clothing and rubber/waterproof boots should be worn due to the weather and ground conditions.**

**For those who like to make composites with their images, this is an incredible source of textures to add to your texture library!**



**Lunch to follow at The Trail Eatery, 35 Crawford Crescent, Campbellville (Milton)  
.Please RSVP to Linette at [Imori@niagaraphoto.org](mailto:Imori@niagaraphoto.org).**



**BLOOMLAND IN OZ  
ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS  
680 PLAINS RD., BURLINGTON, ON**

**Thursday, March 26, 2026 @ 10:00**

**Bloomland in Oz, where imagination blossoms into a spectacular adventure, is at RBG. It is inspired by the pages of The Wonderful Wizard of Oz by L. Frank Baum.**

**The land of Oz awaits, featuring captivating botanical displays, delightful artistic creations, and thousands of real blooms. Every path is filled with magic in this indoor experience, where the journey is just as extraordinary as the destination.**

**This is a time-ticketed exhibition. Space is limited. Please book a 10:00 ticket in advance to avoid disappointment. Popular timeslots sell quickly, and at-the-door tickets are not available once capacity is reached.**

**Event details and tickets are available here: [rbg.ca/oz](https://rbg.ca/oz)**

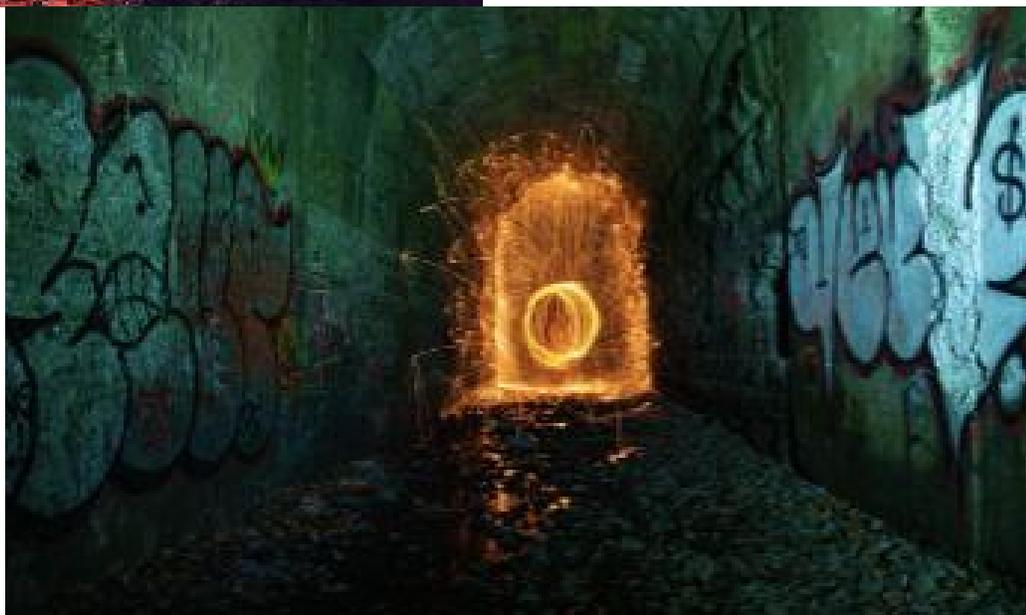
**As part of the 2026 floral showcase Bloomland in Oz, RBG presents the “Of Wonders Wild and New” exhibit, located in the Auditorium at RBG Centre. This visual arts exhibition draws on themes from the world of Oz through the lens of contemporary woodworking. Featuring six artists from across Canada, Six Nations, Italy and Spain.**

**Following our full morning of photography, we will enjoy some social time over lunch at a local restaurant.**

**.Please RSVP to Linette at [Imori@niagaraphoto.org](mailto:Imori@niagaraphoto.org).**

April Outing - Contact Linette - [Imori@niagaraphoto.org](mailto:Imori@niagaraphoto.org)

**STEEL WOOL SPINNING  
17 WHIRLPOOL RD, NIAGARA FALLS  
MILLENIUM RECREATIONAL TRAIL**



**Tuesday, April 10, 2026 -**

**Steel Wool Spinning creates beautiful images of movement, light and colour. We will meet in the tunnel at 7:00 p.m. with our camera gear and tripods. Bring a shutter release cable or remote shutter release for long exposures of up to 20 seconds. Bring a flashlight to light up the path to go to and from the parking lot and the tunnel.**

**After, warm up with a coffee or hot toddy at Hooligans Sports Bar, 3515 Portage Rd, Niagara Falls.**

**Please RSVP to Linette at [Imori@niagaraphoto.org](mailto:Imori@niagaraphoto.org).**



## SWAYZE FALLS

**Trail Type:** Shared Use

**Trail Marker:** Yellow # 1

**Trail Length:** 6.2 km (3 hours)

**Trail Difficulty:** More Difficult

The Swayze Falls Trail is a shared use trail to accommodate hikers, horseback riders and mountain bikers. This natural terrain trail can be accessed from the Pelham Road or Roland Road entrances. Some of the most notable features along the trail include Swayze Falls, natural vegetation including Sugar Maple, Black Maple, and Black Walnut. The Swayze Falls Trail loops through both fields and forests.

### **SHORT HILLS PROVINCIAL PARK 193, ROLAND RD. RIDGEVILLE ON. (PARKING LOT B)**

**Tuesday, April 21, 2026 -**

Short Hills Provincial Park is a 735-hectare natural environment park. Geographically, the park is situated in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, spanning St. Catharines, Pelham and Thorold. Notable features such as the Niagara Escarpment and Carolinian Forests are protected in the park as they are provincially significant earth science and life science features. The park has 7 different hiking trails.

We will be taking the Swayze Falls Trail (see map above). We will not hike the entire trail, but rather will hike to the waterfalls and slightly beyond.

Due to the location of the park in the Carolinian Forest Zone, approximately 50% of the park's vegetation is considered to be exotic. The park is home to many rare plant species, such as Sassafras and Black Gum trees. One of the most noticeable plants in the park includes the Trillium (*Trillium gandiflorum*), the emblem of Ontario. Please remember that it is illegal to pick a Trillium plant in Ontario.

The Carolinian Forest brings many unique and common wildlife species to Short Hills Provincial Park. Mammal species include: Brush Wolves, White-tailed Deer, Red Fox, Chipmunk, and the Meadow Vole. Significant Bird species include: Great Horned Owl, Indigo Bunting, Bobolink, Baltimore Oriole, and the Scarlet Tanager.

You may choose to bring your tripod if you're interested in getting long exposure images of the waterfalls. After the morning of hiking and shooting, we will head over to The Pelham Street Grille for lunch at 1507 Pelham St, Fonthill.

Please RSVP to Linette at [Imori@niagaraphoto.org](mailto:Imori@niagaraphoto.org).

## New Members

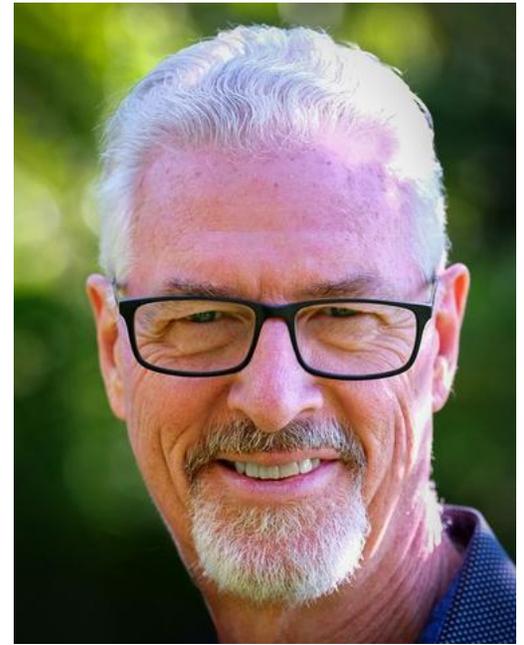


*“I was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, England, and now live in the Niagara region. I’ve always been drawn to photography. As a child, I had the handy-dandy 110 Instamatic. If anyone remembers Sooter’s, I worked there for a couple of years. I spent 36 of the last 38 years at Enbridge, where I started in sales and finished in construction. After I retired, I jumped back into photography. While I enjoy all genres, my main focus is canine and equine portraits.*

*I chose to join NAPA as I was looking for critical, constructive feedback on my images via the competitions and was drawn to the many outings offered.”*

## Member Profile - Steve Baurer

My first memory of my photographic journey was at the age of 12, when I received a Kodak X15 film camera. We headed out west in the summer on a family vacation, and I was amazed by the beauty and majesty of the Rocky Mountains. I must have taken 4 or 5 rolls of 12 film exposures. I don't have those images anymore, but they certainly inspired me to continue with photography. Fast forward to age 18 and my first year of university. I purchased a Canon TX SLR camera with 80-200 and 50 mm lenses. I enjoyed a few years of concert photography, sports photography (particularly cycling) and general photography around campus in Hamilton and my hometown of Fenwick.



After moving to St. Catharines and a brief hiatus from photography, I was asked by a neighbour to join the St. Catharines photography club. This experience opened my eyes to many different ways to see the world and photograph it, including travel and landscape photography, nature, sports, creative and many more. It was my first introduction to slide film photography and the lack of forgiveness in exposure that comes with the challenge of shooting slide film.

After turning to digital photography in 2005, for a little more than twelve years, I photographed weddings and family portraits, which was both challenging and rewarding, but helped pay for the new and very expensive camera equipment. Around 2018, I took an interest in photographing waterfalls. It was a good opportunity for solo adventures, and I could take all the time I needed to capture every nuance and angle, including wide-angle, telephoto and close-up images. I'm sure I have thousands of waterfall photos that I may never have time to edit. During COVID I used my free time (which was pretty much all the time since I was retired) to take photos of nature in and around the neighbourhood in Port Dalhousie. You discover all sorts of things about your neighbourhood and the world around you when you slow down and take the time to look around and photograph.

Since 2023, and joining the Niagara Association of Photographic Arts, I have assisted my partner Linette with planning outings at the club. Together we have been on many photographic adventures locally and have travelled to Alberta, Italy, Africa and Eastern and Northern Ontario. We both enjoy many types of photography, whether it be nature, landscape, flowers, close up, car shows, action sports, street photography, concerts, or even trash and treasures. Photography is not only an interest to me but indeed a lifestyle.

# Member Profile - Dave Bauer





## CAPA Ontario Zone Team Competition

The Niagara Association of Photographic Art team scored 115..5 in this competition. Congratulations to all. WELL DONE!



Paula Cheese, "Harris Hawk" 24



Ela Masse, "Incoming Snowy Owl" 23.5



Michell Stranges, "The Multivers" 22.5



Virginia MacDonald, "Jump BeBe Jump" 23.5



Terry Rotella, "Ode to Autumn" 22.5



# CAPA Fine Art Competition

Our photographers scored scored 138.5 in this competition. Only 0.5 shy of an Honour Award. Congratulations. WELL DONE ALL!



Karen Fulham, "Still Life with pears" 25



Janice White, "Going Home" 24.5



Ruth Wanless, "Study in Lavender" 24



Ian Mather, "Give Us a Kiss" 24.5



Paula Cheese, "Fox Hiding in Flowers" 21



Michelle Stranges, "A Nod to Monet's Garden" 20