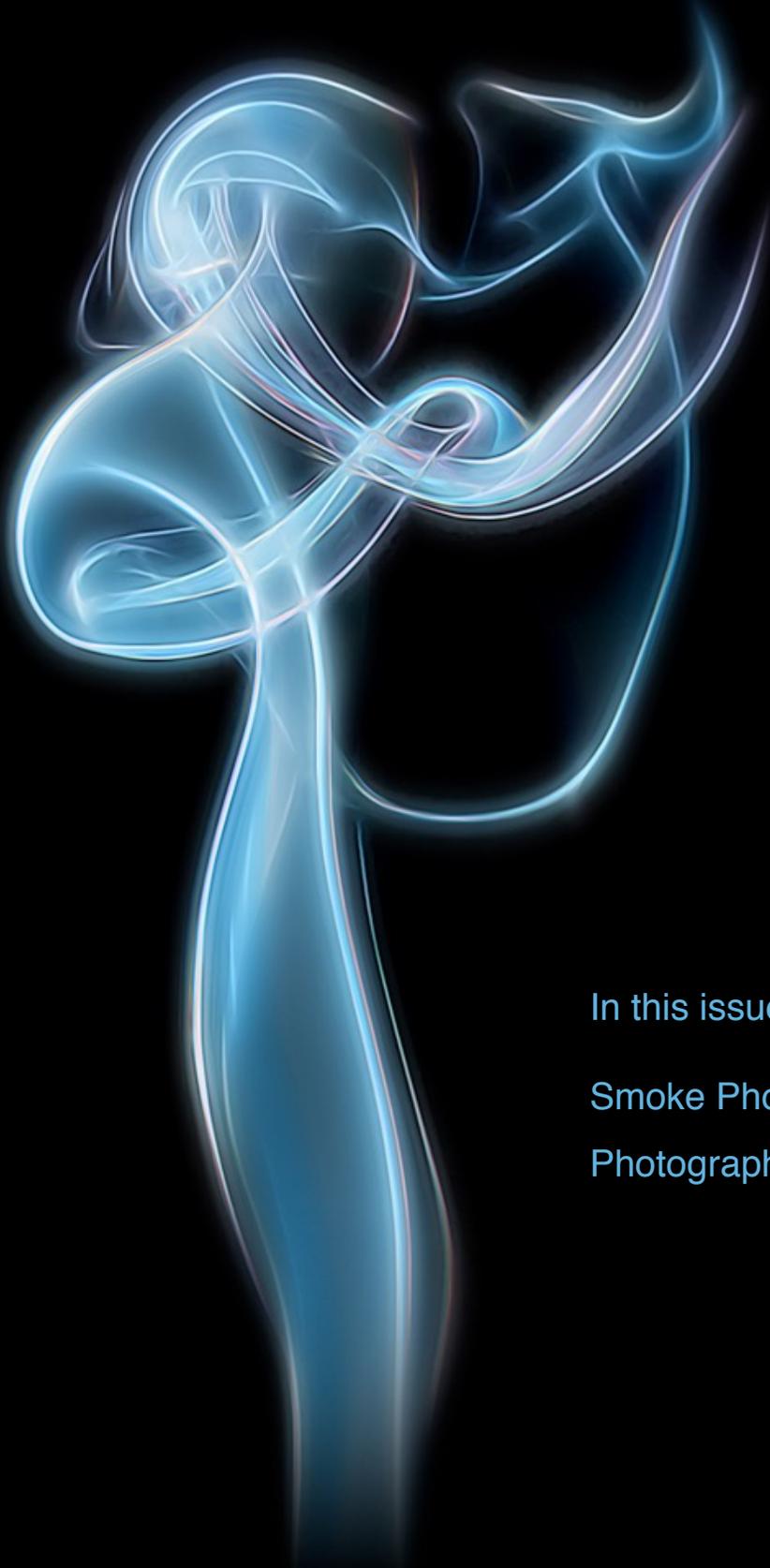


# *Bluenose Focus*

The Newsletter of the Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia  
May 2016 Volume 51 Issue 2



In this issue:

Smoke Photography

Photography in Ecuador

# Bluenose Focus

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May 2016 Volume 51 Issue 2

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## Newsletter submissions

We welcome your submissions to Bluenose Focus, and will do our best to make sure that the best submissions make it into the newsletter.

Articles prepared using any current software may be submitted. Should there be a difficulty, the Editor will get in touch.

Submitted images should be JPEG format, sRGB colour space, and high resolution.

Submissions should be e-mailed to:

[georgefm41@gmail.com](mailto:georgefm41@gmail.com)

## The Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia

### Directors

President:	Dean Hirtle
Vice-President:	Darryl Robertson
Past President:	Laszlo Podor
Recording Secretary:	Pam Mills
Newsletter Editor:	George Mitchell
Treasurer:	Kent Speiran

### Standing Committee Chairs

Program Chair:	Fred Greene
Entry Chair:	Wayne Garland
Judging Chair:	Fred Greene
PSA Representative:	Viki Gaul
CAPA Representative:	Joyce Chew

### Other Committees

Public Relations:	<i>Vacant</i>
Honours and Awards:	TBA, Tony Landry, Sharon Moser (assistants)
Seminars:	Fred Greene
Nominating:	Laszlo Podor
Constitution and By-Laws:	Joyce Chew
Projection:	Joyce Chew
Host:	Laszlo Podor
Hospitality:	<i>Vacant</i>
Banquets:	Edie Greene
A/V Advisor:	Bill Murphy, Mervyn Kumar-Misir
Statistician:	Nick Honig
Webmaster:	Darryl Robertson
Judging Equipment:	Hubert Boudreau
Event Photographer:	Hubert Boudreau
Workshops/Field Trips:	Fred Greene
Shubenacadie Wildlife Park Guides:	Doug Leahy, Vic Fraser, Jen Fried
Outside Evaluations:	Colin Campbell
Digital Coordinator:	Bill Murphy, Mervyn Kumar-Misir (assistant)
Facebook Administrators:	Laszlo Podor, Viki Gaul



# Editor's Corner

By George Mitchell

Hands up all of you readers who noticed that the January newsletter did not appear. Well, just a few. I have an excuse, of course. In January I was staying in a small town in Ecuador and the internet access was intermittent. The missing issue is Volume 51 Issue 1. In order to keep the numbering consistent, I am calling the present (May) issue Volume 51 Issue 2, even although it is the first one of 2016.

You will notice in Viki Gaul's PSA Report a number of colourful montages containing all the images that were sent away to PSA Interclub Competitions this past year. I thank Viki, on behalf of all Guild members, for providing this record.

The cover of this issue is an image of smoke taken by Darryl Robertson. Dar-

ryl has written an article for this issue (page 20) explaining the technique. The beauty of that cover image should stir us all into action.

I have used (abused?) my position as editor to include an article about Ecuador. It is essentially a photo essay with some emphasis on photographic opportunities. Of course, very little can be covered in a short article. If any of you intend to visit Ecuador, don't hesitate to approach Pip or me for information or suggestions.

Again, I encourage you, our members, to submit images, news items, and articles for future issues of the Bluenose Focus. You can reach me at [georgefm41@gmail.com](mailto:georgefm41@gmail.com).

## 2016-17 Guild Themes At A Glance

1st Guild Assignment

“Light Painting”

(Must have been photographed after May1, 2016)

2nd Guild Assignment

“From the Sea”

(Must have been photographed after September 1, 2016)

R. K. Mann Trophy

“Can one desire too much of a good thing” (As You Like It, Act IV, Scene 1)

(Must have been photographed after September 1, 2016)

# President's Message



By Dean Hirtle

As our 2015/16 year winds down, I would like to reflect on our Program.

We made some adjustments this past year, including reducing the number of: meetings, competition nights, competition entries, and new images required. We welcome comments from members regarding these and other changes as well as suggestions on how to improve our Program next year.

Our Program continues to provide variety and opportunity. Twelve field trips were offered this year. We had first rate presentations from folks outside our club: David and Christopher Sheppard on the Fundy Shore; Guy Brun on Connecting with Nature; Stephan Reeb on Images from Northern Italy; and Kas Stone on Scenery and Secrets of a Landscape Photographer. In a change of pace, our Christmas party was held at the Museum this year and was well attended and well received. Thanks to Viki Gaul and Edie Greene for their efforts in organizing same. We continue to pull our weight as a member club for both CAPA and PSA as we hosted print competitions for both this year – great opportunities to see national and international competition images. Thanks to both Joyce Chew and Viki Gaul as our respective reps for CAPA

and PSA and their efforts to host these events. Laszlo Podor's presentation of images from his garden for our spring show was excellent.

Our annual business meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> saw all of our Directors and Executive re-offering for the coming year. We are fortunate to have this level of ongoing commitment to our club. I am very grateful for this support. Our club and Program thrive on the efforts of volunteers, and I would like to thank all our Executive and committee members for their time and service to the Guild.

I would also like to thank all other Guild members who have contributed in some way this year, including contributions to our Spring Show, presenting seminars, leading field trips, etc.

We are fortunate to have such an extensive and rich program, and none of it would be possible without volunteer efforts. If you are able to contribute to Guild activities in any way, I urge you to do so.

I hope you are enjoying the Guild Program this year, and that it is informative, inspiring and fun. If you agree, I encourage you, as always, to be an ambassador for our club and spread the word! Thank you.

# PSA Report

By Viki Gaul



I have had a busy year as your representative with the Photographic Society of America. The various jobs that need to be done include: paying the CSA Club Membership; enrolling in the various Interclub Competitions for the season; receiving, re-sizing, sorting, and sending in the images selected at the Guild competitions (both digital and print); receiving the scores and making sure that they are sent to be tabulated for “End of the Year” purposes.

The most wonderful part of course is distributing the Awards and Ribbons to the recipients. I love to be able to acknowledge the beautiful works of photographic art in each of the rounds in the six categories. This year we participated in 5 digital sections: the open category known as PID (Projected Image Division), Nature, Creative, Photo Travel, and Photojournalism. We also participated in 4 of the 5 Print categories: Large and Small Colour, and Large and Small Monochrome. The 5th category is Creative

and we will be considering adding that for next year.

I would like to thank each of the Guild members for participating in the Guild competitions, and extend a second ‘thank you’ for all the images selected to go away to PSA Interclub competitions. Our success in these competitions shows that we HOLD OUR OWN in the quality of our images, both those made here in Nova Scotia, and images made by those who travel.

Another duty of the club representative is to answer questions and supply membership information to Guild members who show an interest in joining the PSA as individuals. Anyone who would like to discuss the PSA and what it offers should contact me.

The PSA annual conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas this September. If you are looking for a photographic vacation this year, information can be found on the PSA website at [psa-photo.org](http://psa-photo.org) (and clicking on ‘Conference’), or from me.

Photographic Society of America  
**78th Annual Conference**  
Join Us in  
**San Antonio**  
TEXAS  
September 10-17, 2016

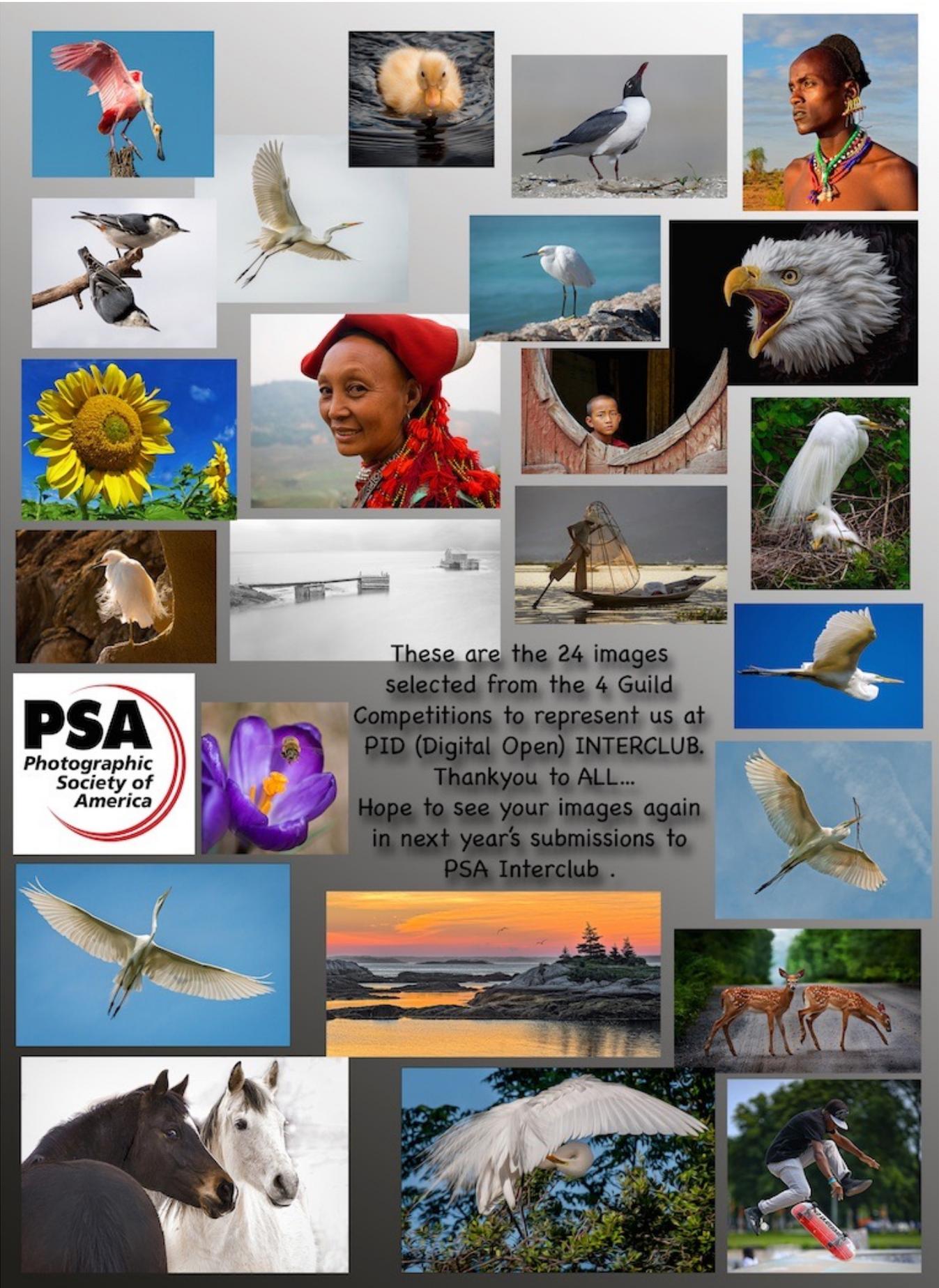
**Attend the  
2016 PSA  
Conference**

**September 10-17, 2016**

A great way to meet people, have personal encounters with known photographers, and renew longtime acquaintances.

Viki Gaul, APSA,PPSA  
PSA Club Representative  
Photo Guild of NS  
email-mudroom@mac.com  
902-825-1621

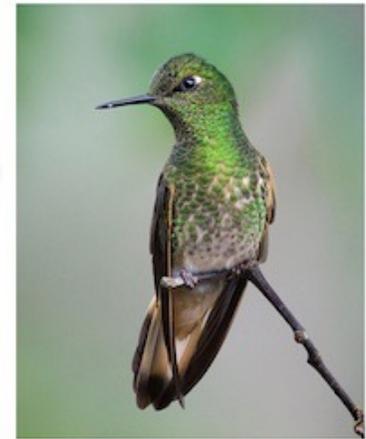




These are the 24 images  
 selected from the 4 Guild  
 Competitions to represent us at  
 PID (Digital Open) INTERCLUB.  
 Thankyou to ALL...  
 Hope to see your images again  
 in next year's submissions to  
 PSA Interclub .



# Nature



The 18 NATURE Images chosen from the Guild competitions to represent us in the 3 Rounds of PSA Interclub Competitions 2015-16





18 images submitted to PSA  
 INTERCLUB 2015-16  
 PHOTO TRAVEL Division  
 ....Thankyou....

To All PGNS Members  
 for sharing these  
 wonderful  
 travel photos !





The 18 CREATIVE images  
 selected to represent PGNS in  
 3 Rounds of PSA  
 Interclub 2015-16





6 Photojournalism images were selected from each of the 4 Guild Competitions and were sent 'away' to represent us in PSA Interclub Competitions 2015-16. Thankyou to everyone for the great 'PJ' images !!!!



ICPC - Club Standings By Round 2015-16						
		Oct	Dec	Feb	Apr	Total
<b>Large Color [LC]</b>						
St. Louis CC	SLCC	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	373
Photographic Guild, NS	PGNS	89	95	90	89	363
Merrimack Valley CC	MVCC	100	82	93	86	361
Loveland Photographic Society	LPS	82	81	97	95	355
West Cumbria Photo Group	WCPG	88	78	91	92	349
South Jersey CC	SJCC	85	77	89	87	338
Carolinas' Nature Photographers Assn	CNPA	92	50	91	87	320
Photographic Guild, Detroit	PGD		93	92	99	284
3HCC, Indiana	3HCC	81	74	87	41	283
Manchester CC	MCC	92		91	95	278
Boise Camera Club	BCC				96	96
<b>Large Monochrome [LM]</b>						
St. Louis CC	SLCC	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	376
Photographic Guild, NS	PGNS	89	89	89	90	357
Loveland Photographic Society	LPS	89	70	90	96	345
West Cumbria Photo Group	WCPG	82	76	91	92	341
Carolinas' Nature Photographers Assn	CNPA	88	72	91	86	337
South Jersey CC	SJCC	87	72	88	83	330
Merrimack Valley CC	MVCC	80	66	92	90	328
Photographic Guild, Detroit	PGD		87	96	95	278
Manchester CC	MCC	94		92	67	253
3HCC, Indiana	3HCC	39	66	43		148
Boise Camera Club	BCC				91	91
Pacific Coast Photographic Society	PCPS	89				89
<b>Small Color [LC]</b>						
St. Louis CC	SLCC	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	368
Photographic Guild, NS	PGNS	88	91	94	92	365
East Troy Viewfinders CC	ETVCC	90	74	91	97	352
Loveland Photographic Society	LPS	79	74	95	90	338
Merrimack Valley CC	MVCC	85	74	92	82	333
Carolinas' Nature Photographers Assn	CNPA	82	74	85	88	329
South Jersey CC	SJCC	88	70	84	83	325
West Cumbria Photo Group	WCPG	89	38	90	89	306
Image Makers CC	IMCC		68	88	82	238
SunCity Texas Photo Club	SCTPC	64	41	66	63	234
3HCC, Indiana	3HCC		79	88	40	207
Manchester CC	MCC	65		66	44	175
Boise Camera Club	BCC				94	94
Pacific Coast Photographic Society	PCPS	88				88
New Castle CC	NCCC	20	36	21		77
<b>Small Monochrome [SM]</b>						
St. Louis CC	SLCC	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	358
Photographic Guild, NS	PGNS	90	88	88	89	355
Carolinas' Nature Photographers Assn	CNPA	88	68	87	93	336
West Cumbria Photo Group	WCPG	91	68	89	88	336
East Troy Viewfinders CC	ETVCC	83	76	86	88	333
Merrimack Valley CC	MVCC	83	70	91	89	333
Loveland Photographic Society	LPS	84	84	66	89	323
SunCity Texas Photo Club	SCTPC	60	38	67	67	232
South Jersey CC	SJCC	61	34	87	45	227
Image Makers CC	IMCC		72	85	63	220
Manchester CC	MCC	66		93	44	203
3HCC, Indiana	3HCC		58	22	23	103
Boise Camera Club	BCC				87	87
New Castle CC	NCCC	19	16	21	24	80
<b>Creative Altered Reality [CAR]</b>						
St. Louis CC	SLCC	Rd 1	Rd 2	Rd 3	Rd 4	363
West Cumbria Photo Group	WCPG	88	84	93	89	354
Merrimack Valley CC	MVCC	85	76	89	86	336
Carolinas' Nature Photographers Assn	CNPA	82	64	91	88	325
East Troy Viewfinders CC	ETVCC	81	72	84	80	317
Photographic Guild, Detroit	PGD		77	95	97	269
Manchester CC	MCC	88		87	74	249
Loveland Photographic Society	LPS	80	81		73	234
Image Makers CC	IMCC		52	66	82	200
Boise Camera Club	BCC				89	89



After 4 rounds  
of PSA Interclub  
**PRINT**

Competitions  
2015-2016

We are pleased to  
announce that  
PGNS placed  
2nd in **ALL 4 OF THE**

categories

we participated in !

**Congratulations**

to all members whose  
prints were selected

to represent us...

and further

**Congratulations**

to all members

whose prints

received **AWARDS**

and

**Honourable Mentions**

**Hip Hip Hooray!!!!**

Group A	CLUB	LOCATION	Nov	Jan	Mar	May	Totals
Group A	Dea Art Club	Belgium	85	73	73	73	214
	Fossil Grove Camera Club	CA	65	70	70	70	205
	Fullclub Old Lede	Belgium	63	68	72	70	203
	St Louis Camera Club	MO	58	70	75	70	201
	Photographic Club of New South Wales	Canada	64	0	134	0	198
	Wageningen Camera Club	NI	61	67	68	68	194
	North Photo Club Club	NI	58	68	68	68	192
	Ontario Digital Camera Club	NI	60	64	67	67	191
	Lansdale Photographic Association	CA	58	62	71	67	191
	Greater Lynn Photographic Association	MA	54	70	66	66	190
McRae Camera Club	WA	63	67	60	60	189	
Heaven Colour Photo Club	United Kingdom	62	67	67	67	187	
Case Club (Westfriesland Camera Club)	NA	55	68	68	68	189	
New Haven Camera Club	CT	61	74	63	68	186	
Begonia Camera Club	AZ	67	70	61	67	185	
Huntingdon Camera Club	NI	58	62	68	68	186	
Winnipeg Photographic Society	United Kingdom	55	63	62	62	180	
Lansdale Southwicks	Belgium	58	0	124	0	182	
West Columbia Photo Group	United Kingdom	58	61	60	60	180	
Great Falls Camera Club	NI	55	68	58	58	179	
Leitch Creek Camera Club	CA	69	0	68	0	130	
Group B	CLUB	LOCATION	Nov	Jan	Mar	May	Totals
Group B	Ontario Photographic Society	Ontario	74	67	67	67	215
	London Camera Club	Canada	65	65	67	67	197
	Green River Camera Club	IL	60	68	63	63	194
	Tecoma Photographic Society	WA	67	61	72	60	190
	Digital Dreamers	NI	67	68	68	68	191
	Purton Photographic Society	UK	64	67	62	62	193
	Bundelton Camera Club	England	63	69	61	63	193
	North Hampshire Photographic Society	England	67	63	61	61	191
	Northwest Valley Camera Club	CA	63	63	63	63	192
	Pomona Valley Camera Club	CA	64	64	60	60	178
Waystate Camera Club	IL	61	64	60	60	178	
Tampa Camera Club	OH	60	60	58	58	176	
Bellevue Camera Club	NI	58	62	58	58	176	
Renovated Foto Soc (Tulden)	Belgium	62	61	60	60	173	
East Troy Viewfinders	WI	67	58	54	58	188	
Englewood Camera Club	CO	63	55	61	61	180	
West Peak Camera Club	CO	48	64	67	67	186	
Image Matters	WA	62	58	53	63	183	
Houston Photochrome	TX	58	0	58	0	116	
Millers Camera Club	NI	63	0	60	0	123	
Santer Photographic Society	IL	63	0	0	0	63	
Group C	CLUB	LOCATION	Nov	Jan	Mar	May	Totals
Group C	South Tazewell Camera Club	NY	58	77	68	68	201
	Egypt Photo Group	Great Britain	63	68	60	60	181
	Pittsburg Camera Club	WA	61	68	62	62	193
	North Photographic Society	Australia	65	64	60	60	179
	Parliament Camera Club	Ontario	62	68	68	68	176
	Long Top Photography Club	TX	60	68	58	58	174
	Houston Camera Club	TX	60	68	58	58	174
	South Shore Camera Club	NY	49	63	60	60	162
	Glenns Camera Club	CA	49	62	60	60	161
	Tennock Camera Club	NI	48	61	51	51	150
Burnstead Camera Club	PL	51	0	108	0	159	
Kalamazoo of Birmingham	IL	48	63	48	48	108	
Manchester Camera Club	NI	51	59	48	48	108	
Thunder Mountain Camera Club	CO	48	61	60	60	129	
Charlotte Camera Club	NC	39	60	57	58	114	
F&T Camera Club	WA	41	64	51	51	108	
Bowie-Croft Camera Club	MD	36	61	53	53	103	
Camera Club of Ft. Worth	CA	38	63	47	47	96	
North Camera Club	PL	0	63	53	53	116	
Chorley Photographic Society	United Kingdom	0	0	0	0	0	
Group D	CLUB	LOCATION	Nov	Jan	Mar	May	Totals
Group D	Flora Park Camera Club	WA	63	0	133	0	196
	PhotoClub FPO Davenport	Belgium	67	60	68	68	193
	Kansas Photographic Society	UK	58	63	68	68	187
	Louisiana Photographic Society	LA	60	62	62	62	184
	Boston Camera Club	MA	0	100	62	62	162
	Schaumburg Area Photographic Society	IL	55	62	60	60	157
	Asheville Valley Camera Club	WA	55	0	102	0	157
	Great Rapids Camera Club	MI	54	63	63	63	183
	South Strath Photographic Society	England	54	60	60	60	174
	West Tazewell Camera Club	Australia	60	53	64	64	177
Alameda Photographic Society	CA	62	60	62	62	174	
Nevada Camera Club	NV	63	0	121	0	174	
Puget Sound Camera Club	WA	54	57	62	62	173	
Hano Photo Club	NV	63	54	60	60	173	
Photographic Society of Chatterbox	TN	62	68	61	61	172	
North Plains Photo Group	Sweden	58	61	68	68	175	
Duluth Superior Camera Club	MI	58	0	114	0	172	
Western Reserve Photo Club	OH	62	58	60	60	170	
Cape Fear Camera Club	NC	62	54	63	63	169	
Salt Creek Camera Club	IL	63	0	116	0	169	
Hockessin Digital Photographers	WA	67	0	101	0	168	
ABC Photo Society	WA	60	60	63	63	163	
Aliso Photographic Club	WA	60	55	54	63	162	
Le Conte Photographic Society	TN	67	47	53	53	157	
Lake County Camera Club	IL	62	55	42	42	141	
Alameda Photographic Society	CA	54	0	67	0	121	
Photography West	AZ	63	0	58	0	119	
Puchong Camera Club	NI	47	0	0	0	47	
Cardenwood Camera Club	CT	0	0	0	0	0	
Pacific Coast Photographic Society	CA	0	0	0	0	0	
Group E	CLUB	LOCATION	Nov	Jan	Mar	May	Totals
Group E	Photogues Palfater	Belgium	60	68	72	68	208
	The Entire Group	England	67	64	69	69	209
	Bayview Beach Camera Club	FL	60	60	68	68	186
	Photography Club of Beaufort	SC	67	60	68	68	183
	Northampton Camera Club	Australia	67	64	66	66	177
	South Jersey Camera Club	NI	61	63	63	63	177
	Greater Bridgeport Camera Club	CT	60	61	63	63	177
	Bowie Camera Club	ID	68	63	61	61	173
	Sulphur Camera Club	NI	60	60	60	60	170
	Victoria Photographic Society	WA	60	59	64	64	173
Quintessence Valley Photography Club	CT	62	55	63	63	173	
West Chester Photo Club	OH	48	0	122	0	170	
Housatonic Camera Club	CT	48	63	60	60	161	
North Shore Camera Club	IL	43	0	105	0	148	
San City Area Photography Club	TN	49	63	62	62	156	
Camera Club of Oxford Downs	CT	42	57	60	60	159	
Unlabeled Vision Photo Club	MI	45	57	61	61	154	
Midland Camera Club	MI	44	51	68	68	151	
Midland Camera Club	CT	43	0	119	0	162	
Hull Camera Club	CA	0	102	49	49	151	
Winnemucco Camera Club	NV	49	56	54	54	153	
Richmond Camera Club	NI	42	61	60	60	153	
Crescent Camera Camera Club	NC	42	53	61	61	156	
Winnit 20 Photographic Club	England	48	50	60	60	158	
Ti-Dale Photo Society	KY	32	57	68	68	155	
Clemson Photography Club	SC	41	58	47	47	133	
Catalina Region Camera Club	RI	42	59	47	47	135	
Spauld Photo Club	CA	45	0	0	0	45	
Montbello Camera Club	WA	45	0	0	0	45	
Union Camera Club	NE	0	0	0	0	0	
Lewisville Photo Club	SC	0	0	0	0	0	
North Bethesda Camera Club	MD	0	0	0	0	0	
Passadena Camera Club	CA	0	0	0	0	0	
Rosemont Photography Club	CA	0	0	0	0	0	
Shuler Children Camera Club	CA	0	0	0	0	0	

# INTERCLUB



PGNS is sitting in 6th place - 'Group A' - after 3 of 4 rounds in PID (Projected Image Division) INTERCLUB Competitions. Waiting for 4th and final round of the season to be judged. In total there are 129 clubs in 5 groups. To see the top images in each round for the last three seasons please visit the PSA website at this URL... <http://www.psa-photo.org/index.php?pid-interclub-competition> You then click on any one of the galleries for any competition you wish... Lots of lovely imagery to view... including lots from PGNS among the AWARD Winners and Honourable Mentions !! HAVE FUN !

### PID Interclub Competition

**2015-2016 PID INTERCLUB RESULTS**  
 Standings | Round 3 Gallery | Round 2 Gallery | Round 1 Gallery

**2014-2015 PID INTERCLUB RESULTS**  
 Standings | Best of the Best | Round 4 Gallery | Round 3 Gallery | Round 2 Gallery | Round 1 Gallery

**2013-2014 PID INTERCLUB RESULTS**  
 Standings | Round 4 Gallery | Round 3 Gallery | Round 2 Gallery | Round 1 Gallery

**2012-2013 PID INTERCLUB RESULTS**  
 Standings | Round 4 Gallery | Round 3 Gallery | Round 2 Gallery | Round 1 Gallery

Check out the  
2016  
PSA Conference

September 10-17, 2016

A great way to meet people, have personal encounters with known photographers, and renew longtime acquaintances.

Photographic Society of America  
78th Annual Conference

Join Us in  
San Antonio  
TEXAS



September 10-17, 2016

<https://www.psa-photo.org/index.php?2016-psa-conference>



David Akoubian  
Sponsored by Tamron  
Thursday, September 15



Parish Kohanim  
Sponsored by Canon  
Friday, September 16  
Saturday, September 17  
(Workshop)



Chris Nicholson  
Sponsored by Manfrotto  
Saturday, September 17



James Schmelzer  
Sponsored by Sigma  
Wednesday, September 14



Giulio Scorio  
Sponsored by  
Panasonic/Lumix  
Friday, September 16

psa-photo.org



For more information ... email  
PSA-Canadian Maritimes Area Membership Director  
using either of these emails  
[mudroom@mac.com](mailto:mudroom@mac.com) or [amd-canadian-maritime@psa-photo.org](mailto:amd-canadian-maritime@psa-photo.org)  
...I will be happy to assist you ! Viki Gaul

# CAPA News

By Joyce Chew



Spring has sprung and Summer is just around the corner. With all the events around HRM this summer there will be plenty of opportunities for you to use your camera.

In November, our club hosted both the Individual and the Club competitions for the Print Division, allowing our members to view the work of talented print makers from all across Canada. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Hubert Boudreau for setup, Dean Hirtle, Wayne Garland, Bill Murphy, Laszlo Podor for scorekeeping, Fred Greene for securing the judges, Darryl Robertson for assistance with the prints, Wade Pelly and Kim Dennis for helping with the Guild Goodies, and Wayne Garland for arranging the meeting space. It is only with the aid of such willing volunteers that events like these can run smoothly. CAPA and its participating members and clubs were deeply appreciative of PGNS for stepping forward to host the Fall Print competition.

PGNS tied for 8<sup>th</sup> place with a score of 133 points. Congratulations to Viki Gaul for earning the 3<sup>rd</sup> place Certificate of Merit for her print "Thoughtful Orangutan"! We improved our ranking from last year's 20<sup>th</sup> out of 27 clubs in the Fine Art Competition. This year, we placed 12<sup>th</sup> out of 27 clubs with a score of 137 points. In the Fall Nature

competition, we tied for 12<sup>th</sup> out of 28 clubs with 128 points. We finished 16<sup>th</sup> out of 24 clubs in Altered Reality with 119 points, 16<sup>th</sup> out of 19 clubs with 99 points in the Portrait competition, 7<sup>th</sup> of 24 clubs with 138 points in the Spring Wildlife Competition and tied for 6<sup>th</sup> out of 8 clubs with 126 points in the Spring Print category. We earned an Honour Award for finishing 5<sup>th</sup> out of 21 clubs with 134 points in the Digital Theme "Creating Motion in a Still Image", and another Honour award for finishing 4<sup>th</sup> out of 28 clubs in the Spring Open category. Next year's CAPA digital theme is "Your Best Image".

As a precursor to the 2017 National conference in Ottawa, the Atlantic Zone of CAPA is hosting a two-day conference in Sackville, NB on June 25-26, 2016 at the Mount Allison campus. Talented landscape and portrait photographer David Brosha will be presenting at the conference, which will feature interactive workshops, photo tours, presentations, and most of all photographic exploration. Hopefully some of you will be able to make the trip to New Brunswick and make some new photography friends.

Thank you all for submitting your images to the CAPA competitions. Let's try to be in the top 50% of all the CAPA clubs next year!

# CAPA News

## Digital Fine Art- Hosted by Crescent Beach Photography Club

<b>E n t r y</b>		<b><u>Sco re</u></b>	<b><u>Awards</u></b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Image Title-Photographer Name</b>		
<b>1</b>	Sandhill Cranes Taking Flight- Nick Honig	<b>25.5</b>	
<b>2</b>	Dunes 0575- Fred Greene	<b>24.5</b>	
<b>3</b>	Looking Anxious- Marg Nolen	<b>23.5</b>	
<b>4</b>	Broom Maker- Darryl Robertson	<b>23</b>	
<b>5</b>	McNeils Cove- Ken Renton	<b>20.5</b>	
<b>6</b>	Spruces on Fire- Bob Kerr	<b>20</b>	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>137</b>	12th of 27 clubs

## Nature Digital- Hosted by Trillium Photography Club

<b>E n t r y</b>		<b><u>Sco re</u></b>	<b><u>Awards</u></b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Image Title-Photographer Name</b>		
<b>1</b>	Spoonbill 4282- Fred Greene	<b>25</b>	
<b>2</b>	Rhino Trio- Dean Hirtle	<b>21</b>	
<b>3</b>	Flies on Dahlia- George Mitchell	<b>22</b>	
<b>4B</b>	A Heavy Load- Marg Nolen	<b>20</b>	
<b>5</b>	Heron Preening- Wade Pelly	<b>18</b>	
<b>6</b>	Purple Finch- Darryl Robertson	<b>22</b>	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>128</b>	Tied 12 <sup>th</sup> of 28 clubs

# CAPA News

Print – Hosted by The Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia

<b>E n t r y</b>		<b><u>Sco re</u></b>	<b><u>Awards</u></b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Image Title-Photographer Name</b>		
<b>1M</b>	Saint Hubert Gallery- Dean Hirtle	<b>20</b>	
<b>2C</b>	Three In A Row- Marg Nolen	<b>23</b>	
<b>3C</b>	Surfer at Lawrencetown Beach- Wade Pelly	<b>20</b>	
<b>4C</b>	Thoughtful Orangutan- Viki Gaul	<b>25</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> CM</b>
<b>5C</b>	Wolf Portrait- Darryl Robertson	<b>21</b>	
<b>6C</b>	Hooded Merganser 6941- Fred Greene	<b>24</b>	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>133</b>	Tied for 8th out of 10 clubs

Altered Reality Digital- Hosted by Woodstock Camera Club

<b>E n t r y</b>		<b><u>Sco re</u></b>	<b><u>Awards</u></b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Image Title-Photographer Name</b>		
<b>1</b>	Guardian At The Gate- Joyce S. K. Chew	<b>18</b>	
<b>2</b>	Grizzly And The Kiddies 2529- Viki Gaul	<b>23</b>	
<b>3</b>	Fractals Lighthouse 1947- Fred Greene	<b>18</b>	
<b>4</b>	Mahone Bay- Mervyn Kumar-Misir	<b>22</b>	
<b>5</b>	Flower Fire- Ken Renton	<b>19</b>	
<b>6</b>	Tree Ball- Darryl Robertson	<b>19</b>	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>119</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> of 24 clubs

# CAPA News

## Theme “Creating Motion in a Still Image – Hosted by Abbotsford

<b>E n t r y</b>		<b><u>Sco re</u></b>	<b><u>Awards</u></b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Image Title-Photographer Name</b>		
<b>1</b>	Wind And The Stream- Mervyn Kumar-Misir	<b>26</b>	
<b>2</b>	Tate Enters Home Stretch- Joyce S. K. Chew	<b>23</b>	
<b>3</b>	Magnificent Hummingbird- Nick Honig	<b>23</b>	
<b>4</b>	Terence Bay Rocks- Darryl Robertson	<b>23</b>	
<b>5</b>	Gooseneck Dance- Laszlo Podor	<b>22</b>	
<b>6</b>	Holding Hands- Ken Renton	<b>17</b>	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>134</b>	5th out of 21 clubs Honour Award

## Open Digital- Hosted by Langley Camera Club

<b>E n t r y</b>		<b><u>Sco re</u></b>	<b><u>Awards</u></b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Image Title-Photographer Name</b>		
<b>1</b>	Sunflower- Mervyn Kumar-Misir	<b>22.5</b>	
<b>2</b>	Terence Bay Sunrise- Darryl Robertson	<b>25</b>	
<b>3</b>	Tri-Coloured Heron 8736- Fred Greene	<b>25</b>	
<b>4</b>	View of Birches- Laszlo Podor	<b>23</b>	
<b>5</b>	Coming in For A Landing- Joyce S. K. Chew	<b>24</b>	
<b>6</b>	Cougar Stares- France Boutilier	<b>23.5</b>	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>143</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of 28 clubs Honour Award

# CAPA News

## Open Portrait – Hosted by Victoria Camera Club

<b>E n try</b>		<b><u>Sc re</u></b>	<b><u>Awards</u></b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Image Title-Photographer Name</b>		
<b>1</b>	Beautiful Bali Dancer- Marg Nolen	<b>14</b>	
<b>2</b>	Lady of Lisbon- Dean Hirtle	<b>18</b>	
<b>3</b>	The Pirate 5149 Mono- Fred Greene	<b>15</b>	
<b>4</b>	Inner Rock Star- Joyce S. K. Chew	<b>21</b>	
<b>5</b>	Connor and His Buddy- Viki Gaul	<b>20</b>	
<b>6</b>	Mother And Child- Nick Honig	<b>11</b>	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>99</b>	16th out of 19 clubs

## Nature Wildlife Digital- Hosted by Calgary Camera Club

<b>E n try</b>		<b><u>Sc re</u></b>	<b><u>Awards</u></b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Image Title-Photographer Name</b>		
<b>1</b>	Bull Elk Approaching- Viki Gaul	<b>23</b>	
<b>2</b>	Yellow Warbler- Nick Honig	<b>24</b>	
<b>3</b>	Snowy Egret 2105- Fred Greene	<b>25</b>	
<b>4B</b>	Pink Ladyslipper Defender- Joyce S. K. Chew	<b>21</b>	
<b>5</b>	Moose Bull- Laszlo Podor	<b>22</b>	
<b>6</b>	Purple Finch- Darryl Robertson	<b>23</b>	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>138</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> of 24 clubs

# CAPA News

Print – Hosted by Victoria Camera Club

<u>E n</u> <u>try</u>		<u>Sc</u> <u>o</u> <u>r</u> <u>e</u>	<u>Awards</u>
No.	Image Title-Photographer Name		
1M	Ride It Like You Stole It- Viki Gaul	22	
2C	Mahone Bay- Mervyn Kumar-Misir	17	
3C	Egret In Flight 7409- Fred Greene	22	
4C	Forest Impression- Dean Hirtle	19	
5C	Screaming Eagle- Darryl Robertson	24	
6C	Lawn And Fern- Laszlo Podor	22	
	<b>Total Score</b>	<b>126</b>	Tied for 6th out of 8 clubs



# Smoke Photography

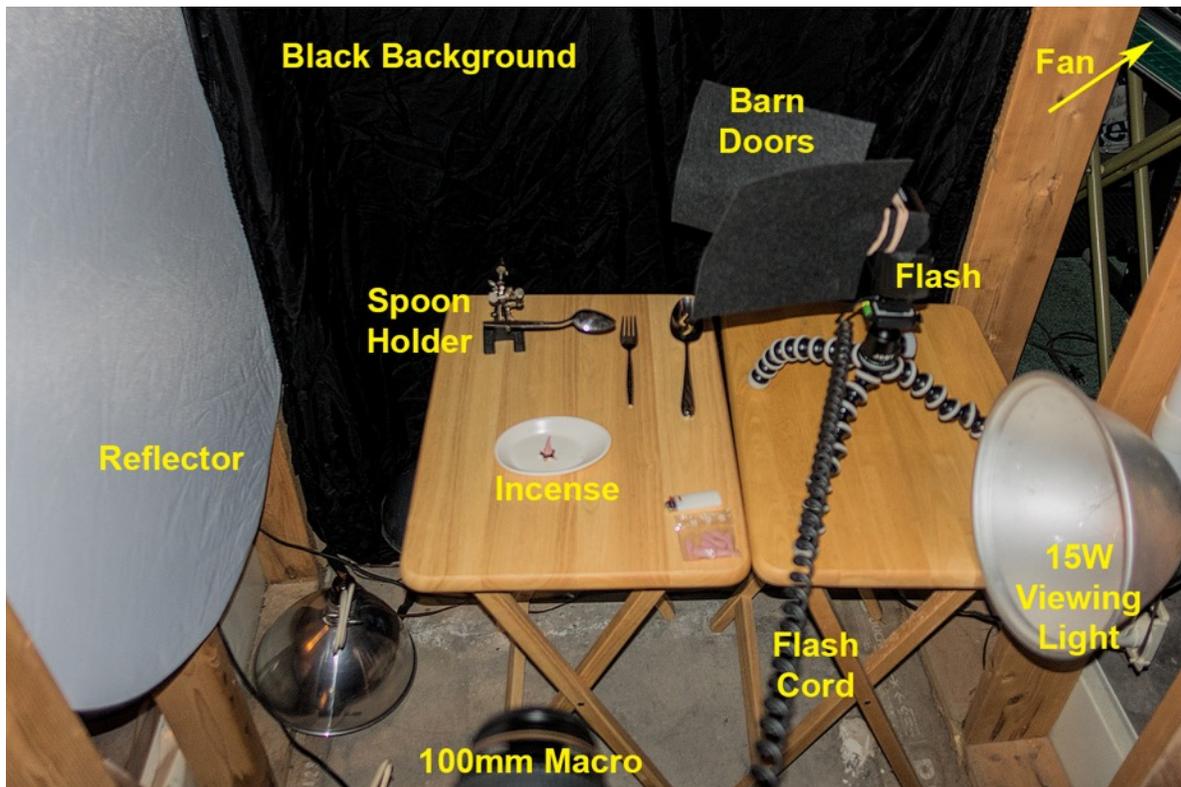
by Darryl Robertson

I recently read an article about a photographer named Thomas Herbrich who took 100,000 images of smoke over three months, broke one camera and ended up keeping just 20 images. I wondered why anyone would do that, so I started experimenting with smoke photography to find out.

I have discovered that smoke photography is fun, creative, frustrating and addictive. What seems like a simple enough concept turns out to be very difficult in practice. Based on information from various on-line tutorials I began building a setup under the steps leading down to my basement. After a lot of different arrangements and experimentation, this is my final 'smoke studio'.

The basic design requires a dark room with no air currents, an electronic flash at 90° to your camera aimed at the smoke stream and a reflector on the other side. A black background is needed and some faint light source that is bright enough to see the smoke but not enough to add to the exposure.

Simple design, but then the complications start to show up. The first is how to trigger the flash when it is off camera. Canon sells a flash extension cord for \$125, but Amazon has several alternatives that cost \$15 to \$40. I bought one for \$30 that works fine. For a lot more money you can get wireless flash triggers as well.



# Smoke Photography

The light from the flash can't hit the background, or the camera lens, so some sort of "barn doors" are needed. I cut some from a thick felt card that works well. A spoon can be used to break up the smoke stream, so some sort of holder is needed. I actually use two different spoons and a fork, each one creating a different effect on the smoke stream. And the smoke can quickly become a thick haze, especially if your setup is in a confined area, so a small fan can help as long as it doesn't directly affect the smoke stream.

And, of course, you do need some smoke! The best source of smoke is incense but I don't like using incense sticks. The smoke stream from an incense stick is thin, and the position of the smoke keeps changing as the incense burns down the length of the stick. The solution is to use an incense cone. The smoke stream is thicker, and it always originates in the same position. One store where you can find incense cones as well as incense stands and ash plates is the Ikebana Shop on Quinpool Road. As a side effect the room will smell nice from all that burning incense, but it can get a bit overwhelming. A room with a window or door leading outside is often the best choice. One incense cone will burn for ten minutes and I usually end up with about 40 to 50 images per cone.

Determining the best exposure is done mostly by trial and error. The histogram will not help much, and a camera's au-

toexposure and autofocus modes can not be used. There are several conflicting considerations. Manual focus must be set at the distance of the incense cone but the smoke stream wanders around so a fair depth of field is needed. With my 100mm macro lens I need to stop down to at least f/8.0, but even then many of my images are out of focus. The flash unit must be on manual with a power setting as low as possible. Smoke rises surprisingly fast so a flash duration on full power is often too long to freeze the smoke. A power setting of 1/2 or 1/4 is best, as long as that is enough light for an aperture setting of f/8.0 or more. Increasing the ISO is not a good idea because even low noise is very noticeable in smoke images. Never use the 'high shutter speed' mode of the flash. Set the shutter speed to the camera's flash sync speed.

When everything is set up, the camera lens is focused, the flash is on and the air is still, it is then time to light the incense cone. The smoke starts drifting up and you wait for the steam to break up and produce an interesting pattern. It is a rule, I think, that the 'break point' will rarely happen within the camera's frame. A slight wave of your hand in the air to disrupt the stream can help, but usually the stream drifts out of the camera's depth of field when you do that. Placing a spoon in the smoke stream can lower the break point but that can also disrupt the smoke into a unordered blur.

# Smoke Photography

This is the frustrating part! There really is very little you can do to control the smoke stream, you never see the same pattern twice, and suddenly the incense cone is done and you have no idea if you have caught something interesting or not.

Once the exposures have been taken, the next step is to process those images. Most your images will be out of focus, completely black (because the exposure was taken before the flash had time to recycled) or the smoke stream is simply uninteresting. However, chances are that you will have captured a few images that look promising. Lightroom can adjust the black and white points, set the colour balance to flash if needed, and apply a lens profile, but beyond that Photoshop is required.

Smoke images require a lot of post processing, and here the fun really begins. Smoke steams and patterns can be surprisingly flat so contrast adjustment is usually required to bring out the subtle shadings and shapes. The Topaz Clarity plugin is ideal for this, but Photoshop controls can be used as well. Some sharpening is always required, and a good de-noise filter is often needed, even when the images are shot at ISO 100.

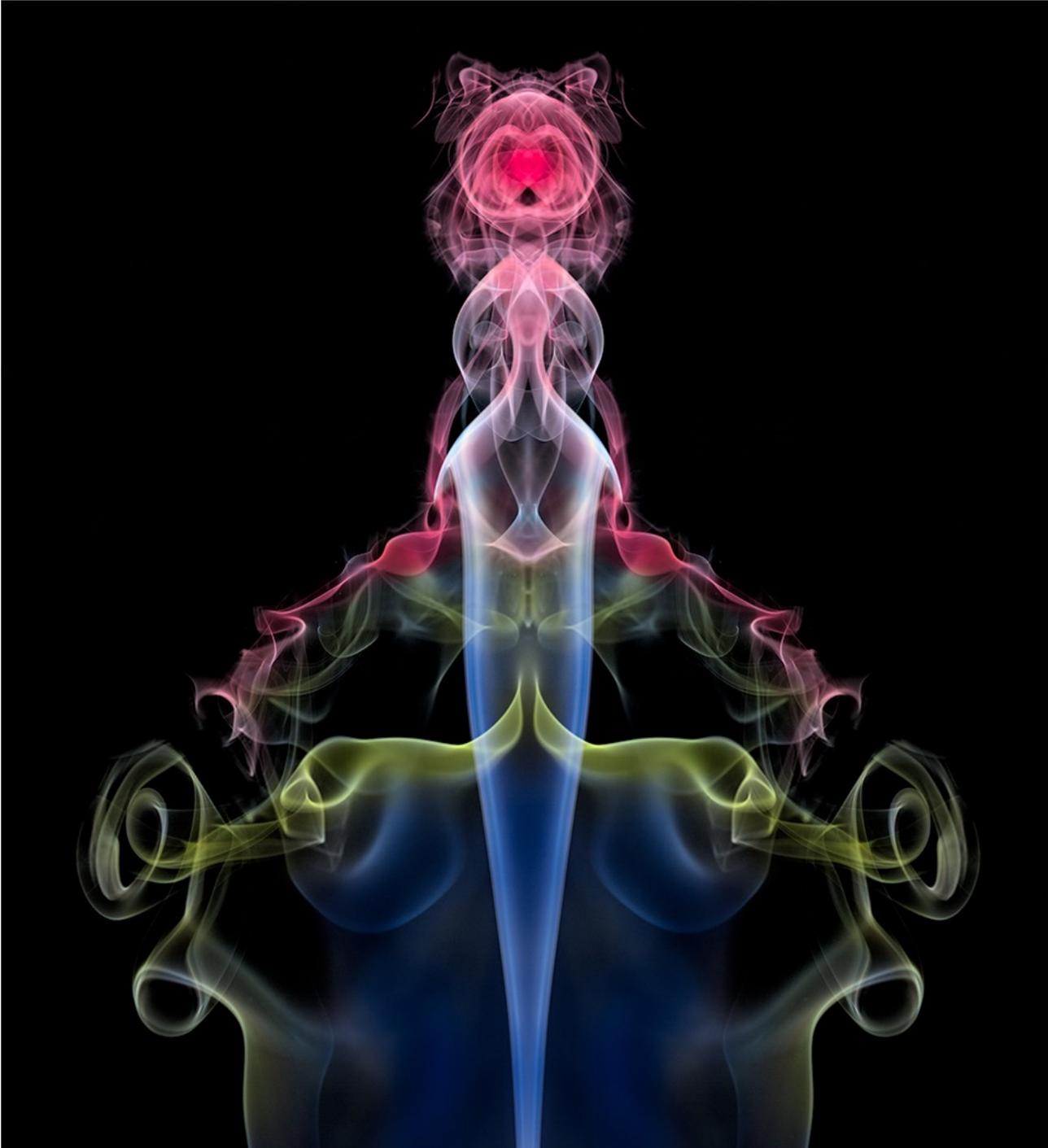
Incense smoke is virtually colourless except for a slight blue hue. You can use the hue and saturation controls in Clarity or Photoshop's Hue/Satura-

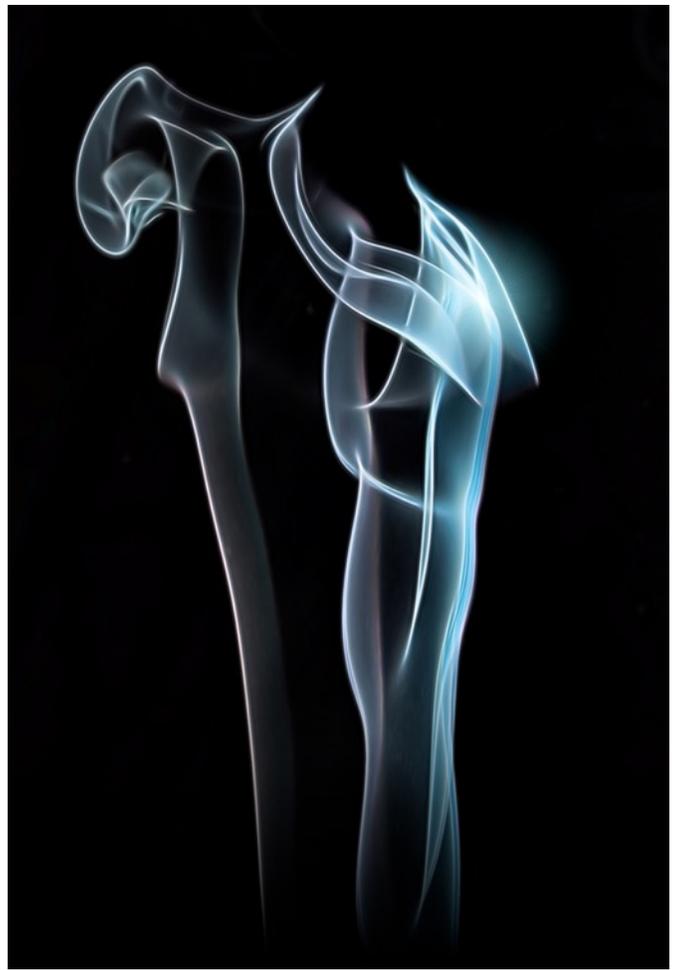
tion control to add some colour and shift the hue, but if you want bright and varied colours in the smoke pattern there are several things you can try. Adding a colour gradient layer in 'multiply' blend mode above the image layer can apply bright colours and different rainbow effects to the smoke steam. The Topaz ReStyle plugin has hundreds of colour combinations that can colour a smoke pattern in surprising ways. Duplicating the image layer several times, offsetting or rotating each one slightly in the 'difference' blend mode can produce bright colours and complex patterns. Inverting the final image will create a white background and very different colours.

Many smoke images are quite narrow and patterned on only one side. An effective technique to produce more shapes and a wider image is to duplicate the image layer, flip it horizontally, set the blend mode to 'lighten', and then move the new layer back and forth over the other 'half' until you get a pleasing symmetrical pattern. Usually only a small section of the smoke stream will contain an interesting shape or pattern, so cropping the original image is almost always needed.

The key here is to experiment, have fun and not worry about the fact that you have been playing in Photoshop for three hours on the same image.

# Smoke Photography

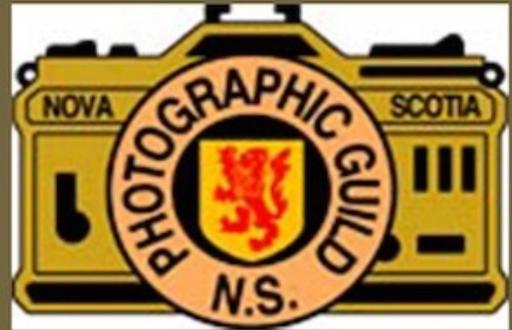




# PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2014-15

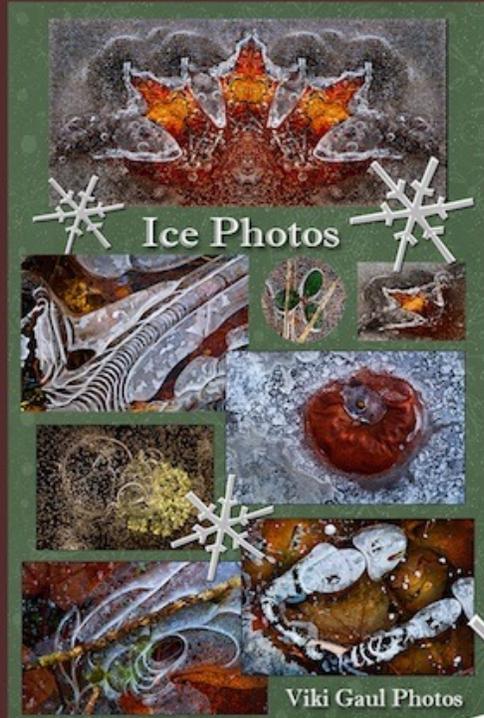


Go to the PGNS  
WEBSITE AND VISIT THE  
POY GALLERY



# P.O.Y. Night - January 18th, 2016

We took a look at how to make 'COLLAGES' such as those used for posting to Guild related Emails, the website and Facebook. The one I made as a demonstration is titled "ICE PHOTOS"

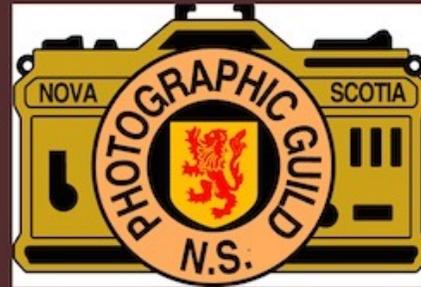


The audience was challenged to make one and share it...

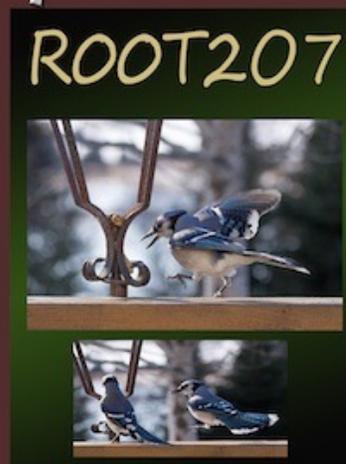
3 people participated and the results are below...

From the pictures used by France and Keith (in the PHOTO BOOTH that evening)...you will see we had a good time....

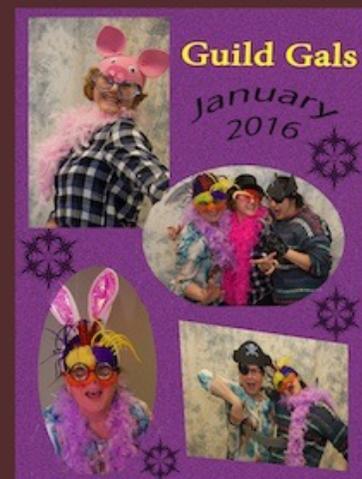
Thankyou everyone !!!! Viki



Keith Vaughan



Tony Landry



France Boutilier

# Photography in Ecuador

by George Mitchell

This past winter, Pip and I spent about ten weeks in Ecuador, from early January until mid-March. As you can imagine, I took many, many pictures. In this article, I will describe our trip, with emphasis on the photographic opportunities. For January, we rented a cabin in the small town of Mindo, on the western slope of the Andes. For the rest of our stay, we were based in an apartment in the old quarter of Quito, the capital.

Our flight arrived in Quito at about midnight. Quito is a high city, at an elevation of 2900 meters (about 9400 feet). We were advised to take acetazolamide against altitude sickness before leaving home. Since we had arranged to be met at the airport and driven down to Mindo, I did not take these pills and suffered no consequences. However, I would advise anyone arriving in Quito who will be staying in Quito or elsewhere in the sierra, to take their medicine! Mindo is only about 100 km from Quito, but the road winds down and around and the driving is quite slow. The drive took about three hours, so we arrived at 3:30 a.m., fairly weary.

**Mindo** is at an elevation of 1200 meters, situated in a valley surrounded by green, forested hills. The temperature is very comfortable. Many days have some rain, but it rarely lasts long. The region is called a cloud forest because the surrounding hills are often shrouded in cloud (no surprise!). The area around

Mindo is famous for its many bird species, but also for butterflies, moths, frogs, beetles, orchids, and so on. There are mammals, but they are rarely seen. The largest is the spectacled bear, which I was happy not to encounter.

While based in Mindo, we spent three nights at a nearby lodge, the Bellavista Cloud Forest Reserve, at somewhat higher elevation. Bellavista has a good trail system and a great atmosphere. We also took a day trip to Milpe Bird Sanctuary, which is a bit lower in elevation than Mindo.

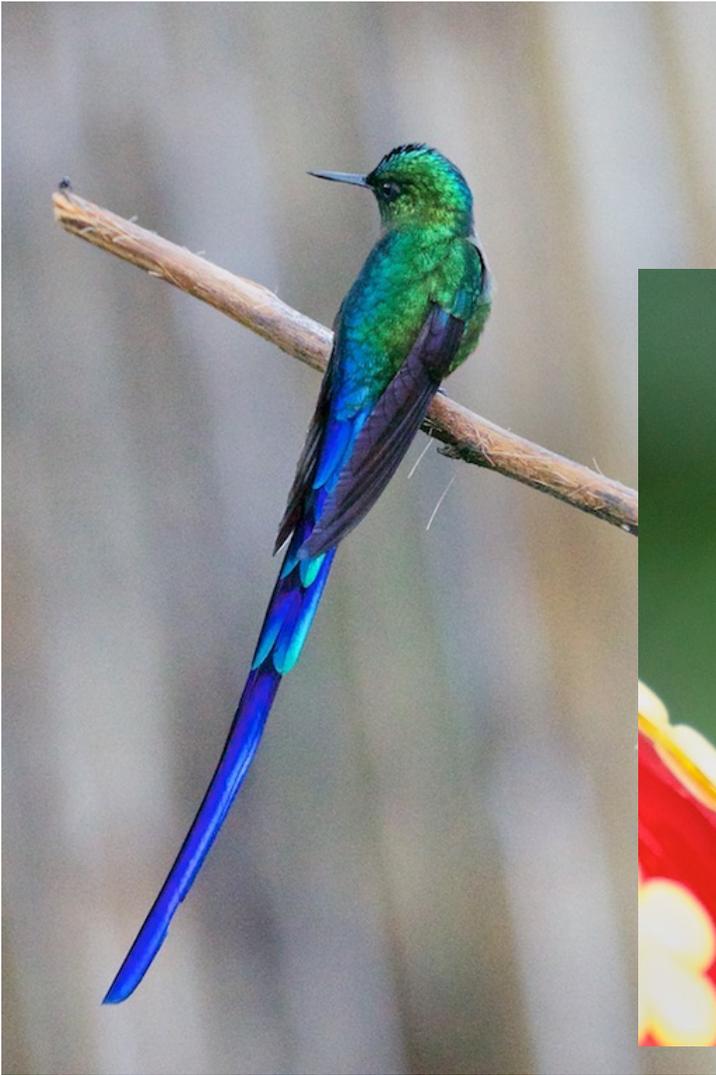
Our cabin was in the property of the Hacienda San Vicente. Hummingbird feeders at the main building attract several of the local species. Incidentally, there are 132 hummingbird species in the big field guide to the birds of Ecuador (Ridgely and Greenfield). I saw about three dozen species in my time in the country. All hummingbirds are marvelous, but several Ecuadorean species are very special, including, for example, the Booted Racket-tail, the Violet-tailed Sylph, and the Wire-crested Thorntail. By the way, I have arranged wildlife pictures here by type (e.g. frogs) rather than by location. Thus, for example, the hummingbirds that follow my description of Mindo are from various places.

Page X below shows some images of the town of Mindo. A few of the many hummingbirds are shown on the following page.

# Photography in Ecuador



# Photography in Ecuador

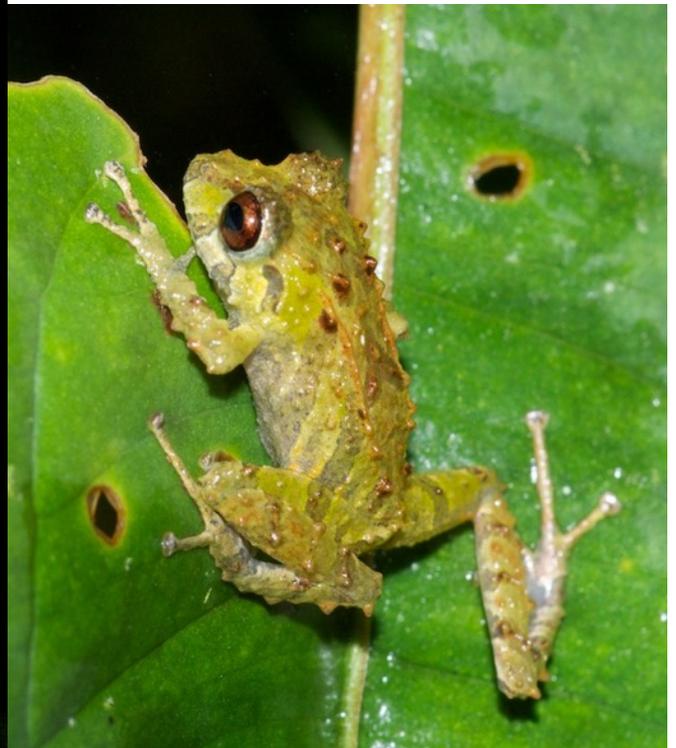


# Photography in Ecuador

One of my objectives on this visit to the tropics was to do more night photography. Many of the creatures I am interested in are active only at night, including tree frogs, moths, katydids, stick insects, some snakes, some beetles, and so on. Since most of these are small, I used a macro lens. My regular macro has a focal length of 100 mm. Of course, night photography requires flash and the built-in (pop-up) flash can give poor results. I wanted to avoid elaborate equipment, so my solution was to use a diffuser with the pop-up flash. In many cases this worked well, especially when the subject was not highly reflective. By the way, does it need to be said that this night

photography required me to be out on a trail in the forest, alone, in the dark, with just a flashlight? During these excursions, my conviction that there is no danger is competing with the knowledge that jaguars, cougars, peccaries, and snakes are out there somewhere, most likely behind me. On my first night walks, I confess I did not get far before turning back. However, I soon became quite blasé.

The frogs below are all nocturnal and include rain frogs, tree frogs, leaf frogs, and glass frogs. They belong to several families, but I will spare you the details.



# Photography in Ecuador



# Photography in Ecuador

**Quito:** On February 1, we headed back up to Quito. This time, we were doing the trip in daylight, and it was spectacular, winding up and up through green valley after green valley, with rivers and waterfalls. The region of Quito, in contrast with Mindo, was quite brown and dry. The apartment we had rented in Quito was a step up in luxury from our modest cabin in Mindo. Quito is situated in a long valley surrounded by mountains. The city is about 40 km long and

only 5 km wide. As the population of Quito grows, houses are being built higher on the surrounding hillsides. This three-dimensional aspect, together with the varied colours of the houses, make the city a fine subject for urban photography. On Sundays, the core of the old town is closed to traffic, and people come out in large numbers to buy and sell or just to walk, making for excellent opportunities for street photography. The following pictures are of Quito.



# Photography in Ecuador



# Photography in Ecuador



# Photography in Ecuador



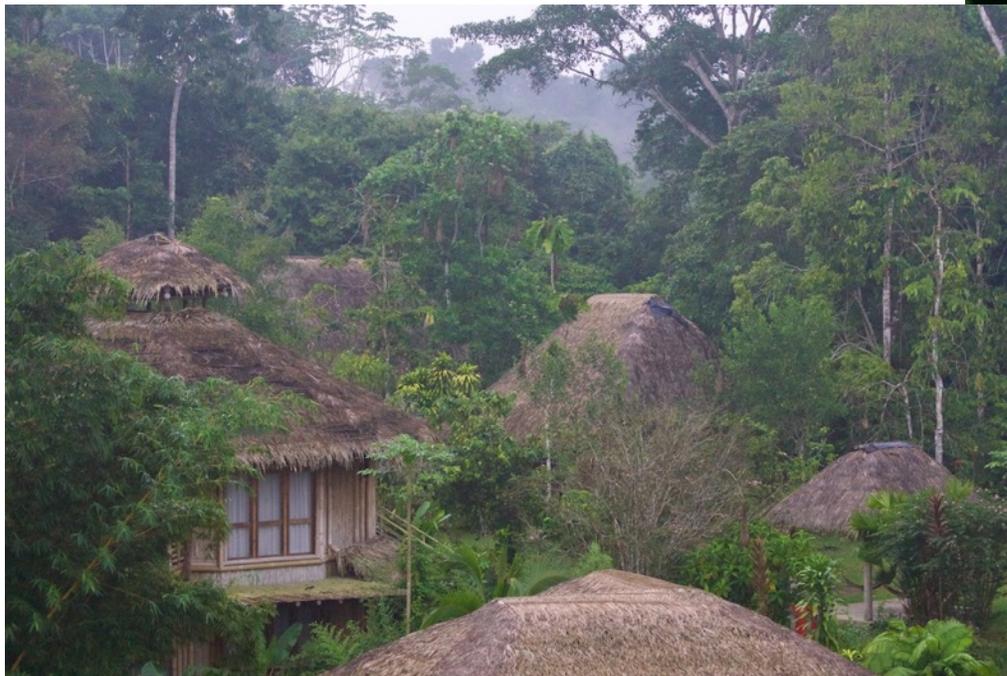
# Photography in Ecuador

We stayed in Quito for six weeks, taking several excursions, including stays at La Selva Amazon Ecolodge, Cabañas San Isidro, the town of Otavalo, and a drive down the Avenue of the Volcanoes.

**La Selva Amazon Ecolodge** is an upscale lodge in the Amazon lowland rainforest near the border of Peru. The trip to the lodge was an adventure in itself. The first stage was a half-hour flight from Quito to the lowland town of Coca. At Coca, we boarded an open, powered boat for a three-hour journey down the Napo river. The final stage was a canoe ride, powered by our guides, through a winding waterway, ending in a lake with the lodge at the far side. We spent five nights there. Activi-

ties at the lowland rainforest lodges are highly organized, not to say regimented. A small group six or eight people are given two guides for their stay, one an indigenous guide from the area, and the other a naturalist guide. One of the rules at all these Amazon lodges is that visitors are not allowed on the trails without a guide. This works very well for most people, but we photographers are different. We like to spend time at one location, getting the perfect shot. So, despite the extra cost, we decided to hire a private guide just for the two of us. In this way, we could go where we wanted when we wanted, including staying out on trails after dark.

The pictures below are from the lowland rainforest.



# Photography in Ecuador



# Photography in Ecuador

**Avenue of the Volcanoes:** Ecuador has ten mountain peaks higher than 5,000 meters. Several of these are active volcanoes. In order to see more of the sierra, with its mountains and valleys, we took a three-day trip south from Quito, with a commercial tour company (Happy Gringo, would you believe!). This trip included visits to the Cotopaxi volcano, the town of Pujili, the Quilotoa crater lake, the town of Riobamba, and the highest mountain in Ecuador, Chimborazo. Cotopaxi, at 5900m, is close to Quito and can be seen from Quito on a clear day. Just weeks before our visit, Cotopaxi erupted, sending ash in an arc which included Quito. Very little actually fell on Quito, and we saw no evidence of this activity while we were there. Another consequence of the eruption was the partial removal of Cotopaxi's beautiful, symmetrical snow deposit. We traveled into the foothills of Cotopaxi, but never saw the summit because of clouds. We did, however, get quite close to a glacier.

When we arrived at the town of Pujili, the market was in full swing. I was surprised to find few tourists: most of the shoppers were local, indigenous people. One noteworthy scene was a row of people operating treadle sewing machines, out in the open. It is perfectly reasonable to take your clothes to the market to be mended, but it doesn't happen in Halifax.

Another highlight of this excursion was Chimborazo. As well as being the highest mountain in Ecuador at 6300m, it is known for its population of vicuñas. These are the wild ancestors of domesticated alpacas. They were exterminated (by hunting) long ago on Chimborazo, but were reintroduced from Peru and are doing well. They live in the bleak, treeless terrain between 3200m and 4800m. On Chimborazo, Pip and I reached an elevation of 4800m, the highest we have ever been. We were not bothered by the altitude, probably due to our spending time in Quito. I must confess that we didn't climb: we were driven up a dirt road that ends at a refuge at 4800m.



# Photography in Ecuador



# Photography in Ecuador

**Otavalo:** The most famous market in Ecuador is in the town of Otavalo, north of Quito. We took a bus there and spent two nights. Otavalenos have been accomplished weavers since pre-colonial times, but the relative prosperity of the region dates only from the 1960s, when land ownership laws were introduced. The pictures below show something of the range of goods that are available. I

believe it is impossible to leave Otavalo without buying something.

The Parque Condor just outside Otavalo is a refuge for injured birds of prey. It houses a variety of avian predators, including a pair of condors. Twice a day, they put on flight demonstrations from an amphitheater overlooking a valley.



# Photography in Ecuador



# Photography in Ecuador

The **Cabañas San Isidro** is a lodge on the eastern slope of the Andes. Like Bellavista Lodge it is in cloud forest, but the wildlife is very different from that on the western slope. Many people come to Cabañas San Isidro for the birds, but are amazed by other things, such as butterflies and moths. (Also, the food is pretty good.) Moths are an under-appreciated attraction of the tropics, I think. The moths below are from a number of loca-

tions in Ecuador, including Cabañas San Isidro. The orange moth at the top left below is fur-covered and totally cryptic, only showing its bilateral symmetry when viewed from above. I end this photo essay with a few birds. The pair of yellow, green, and black birds on a branch are Inca Jays, a spectacular species, easily seen at Cabañas San Isidro. The other birds (clockwise) are a Swallow Tanager, a Toucan Barbet, and a Masked Trogon.



# Photography in Ecuador



# Photography in Ecuador

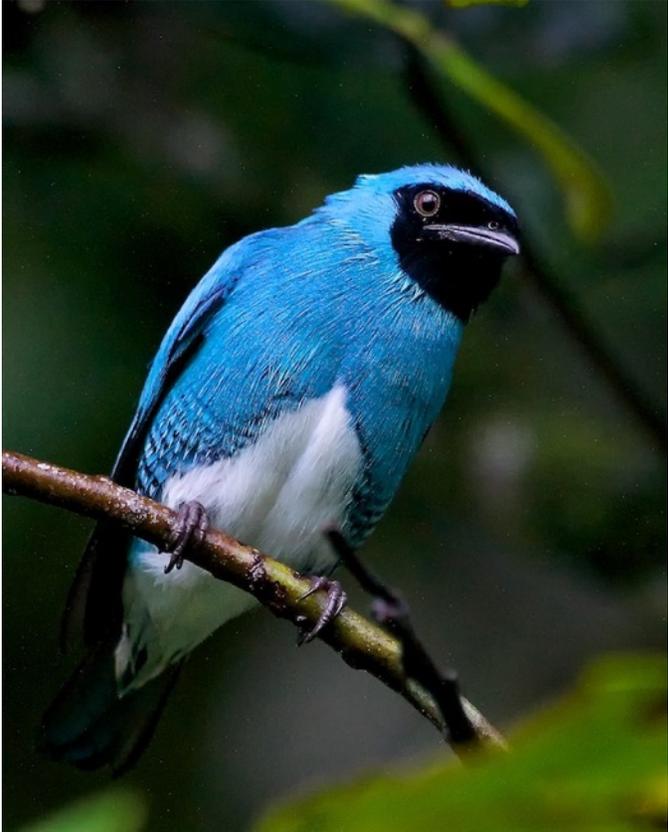


Photo by Joyce Chew



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