

# BLUENOSE FOCUS

Volume 54, Issue 1

SPRING 2020 EDITION



CAPA Update  
PSA News

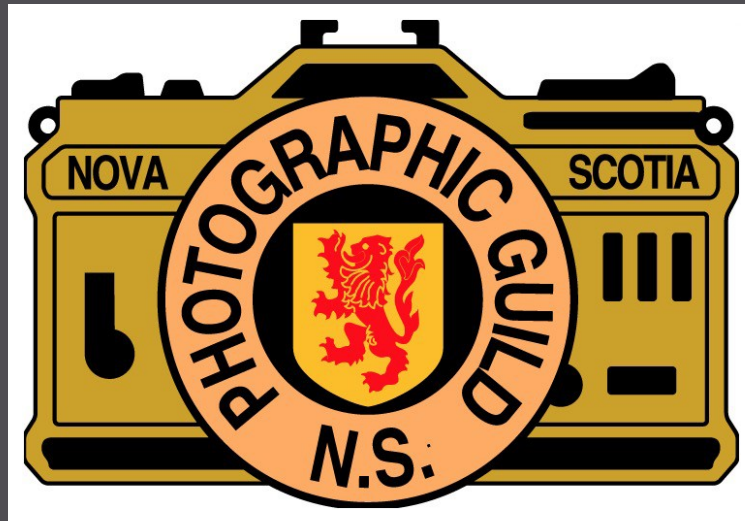
2019 PGNS Annual Banquet

Nature Photography in Ecuador  
by George Mitchell

A Passion For Photography  
by Frank H. Scheme

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## The Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia

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Event Photographer: Volunteer Opportunity  
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Facebook Administrators: Viki Gaul, Laszlo Podor



# President's Message

By Laszlo Podor

"Summer is just around the corner. I am hoping you will have wonderful summer months and lots of beautiful images to show us in September."

I am hoping you all are safe, healthy, and staying at home. My wife and I are spending the time at home for a month and a half now – our self-isolation ended a couple of days after the province declared the State of Emergency on March 22. We are getting used to staying at home, as we have the 'luxury' of working in our garden and not just staying in the house itself.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for 7:30 pm on May 11. As the Museum of Natural History is closed until further notice, we will not be able to have it at the museum. The Executive had an online meeting on Monday April 6, where we discussed the options and decided to go ahead with the AGM using a webinar/conference call. We are still investigating which conference call solution we'll be using, but we are choosing one that will have a phone in option without a computer, so those of you who have no microphone on your computer, you'll be able to join the meeting.

If you are planning to call into our AGM, please send me an e-mail and we'll send you the connection information once it becomes available. Please note, the conference call's details will not be sent to our Google Group due to security reasons.

We discussed the End of Year (EoY) competitions as well. Since it is not possible to have the judging done at the museum, we changed the upload deadline to May 15. This will give you sufficient time to select your best scoring images (print and digital). We will have the prints collected when it is safe to do so. We will have the judging scheduled when the social distancing rules will be lifted.

The submitted Sight and Sound essays will be judged sometime in September or early October (if this pandemic is no longer an issue) and we will hold the awards and trophies presentation at our Christmas banquet.

I would like to thank all our volunteers' work this season. They have put in a lot of their free time to keep our Guild running: Kent Speiran, Darryl Robertson, Dean Hirtle, Pam Mills, Pierre Guynot de Boismenu, Joyce Chew, Viki Gaul, Fred Greene, Wayne Garland, Mervyn Kumar-Misir, Bill Murphy, Esther Theriault, Nick Honig, Terry Boswell, Doug Leahy, Victor Fraser and Edie Greene.

Special thanks go to all of you who submitted images or essays for our competitions during the season – you have contributed to our success nationally and internationally. I look forward to seeing your best images next year!

The Executive team with Fred Greene's lead will be working on the next season's program during the next couple of months. We hope that the province will return to normal by September and the program will be based on that assumption. If you have any suggestions for workshops, seminars, or field trips, please contact the Executive and we will try to get it scheduled.

Summer is just around the corner. I am hoping you will have wonderful summer months and lots of beautiful images to show us in September.

Laszlo Podor  
PGNS President

April, 2020





## PSA Club Rep Report – AGM - Spring 2020

The duties of the PSA Club Rep for a Camera Club, such as PGNS, include the following:

- Registering the club with PSA in the fall.
- Signing up for the various INTERCLUB categories by the due date.
- Making sure the section definitions are up to date and used for PSA competitions.
- Corresponding with the Interclub Directors.
- Uploading the 6 digital files chosen for each of 3 Rounds in the appropriate categories.
- Mailing the print box (with forms) to the host club for judging, (3 Rounds).
- Reporting marks from 'AWAY' for tabulation of 'End of Year' results, (Joyce Chew).
- Showing 'Returns' and awarding ribbons at the follow-up meetings.
- Promoting our Club involvement with PSA.
- Offering information about the benefits of Individual PSA Membership.

PGNS held three competitions this past season called, Guild/PSA, (Sept, Dec, Jan). We participate in 5 Digital Interclub sections, known as 'Divisions'. Nature, PID (open), Creative, Photo Travel and Photojournalism. Round 3 images have been uploaded, for all 5 Digital sections, but Camera Clubs around the world are not holding meetings, so this round will be done using remote judging systems.

The Round 3 Prints are still sitting here at my house. I have just learned this week that the round has indeed been cancelled. The Executive will need to decide how to handle this situation with regard to the 'AWAY' scores being needed for final tally toward 'End of Year' trophies.

Once I have received all the 'AWAY' scores, and the Club Standings for each category, I will send an email with the results. Some of you will remember, at the last meeting I was pretty excited to report where we stood at the time. PGNS continues to be recognized as a club who contributes well-executed images and we are considered, 'hard to beat'.

Please wish us luck, in all categories!!!!

The 3 Guild/PSA competitions create an entry that represents YOUR club.... PGNS, to the rest of the world. This years' images have done well in Interclub Competitions, earning individual awards and ribbons. Contributing to the overall 'End of Year Standings' for the Guild. Yes, individuals receive the occasional ribbon in recognition of their contribution to the activity, but the important thing to remember is ... PSA Interclub is a Club activity.



You can find the top images for each of the rounds (for 3 years) on the PSA website...it is a bit of a chore to find them, so if you want help, just let me know. Lots of inspiration can be found, just looking through the slideshows.

If anyone has any questions about the Photographic Society of America, Individual Membership, the Club Membership, the annual conference, (now known as Photo Festival) etc., please get in touch with me. I would love to be of assistance!

The immediate future of all groups, meetings, and get togethers, is an 'unknown' factor at this time. Please look at the photography projects you've never had time to achieve. Now is the perfect time to sort, post-process, and prepare for the 2020-21 Guild Season. We all will be looking forward to seeing your images in the fall.

Please note...If you would like to give me a hand, with the 'Club Rep duties', I would certainly appreciate the opportunity to share some of the tasks with you.

Thank you!

Submitted by Viki Gaul, PSA Club Rep



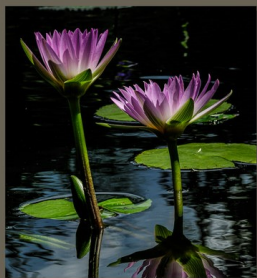
PSA  
Interclub  
Competitions  
NATURE



Round  
#1  
6 Images



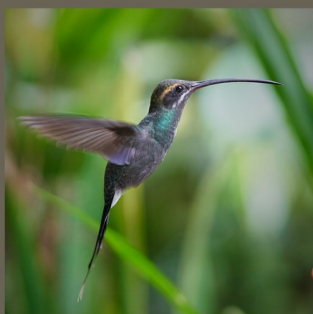
Round  
#2  
6 Images



2019-20



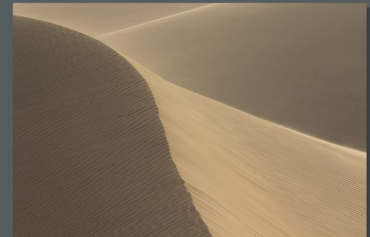
Round  
#3  
6 Images







PSA INTERCLUB  
Competition  
3 Rounds  
OPEN (PID)



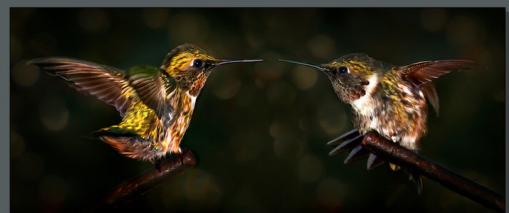
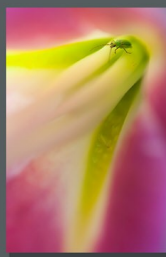
Round #1  
6 Images



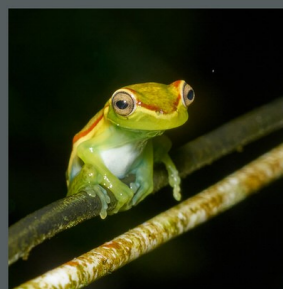
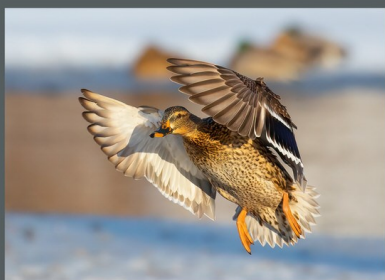
Round #2  
6 Images



Round #3  
6 Images



2019/20







Round #1  
PJ - 2019/20  
6 images



Round #2  
PJ - 2019/20  
6 images



Photographic  
Society of America  
---PJ---  
“INTERCLUB”  
Competitions



Round #3  
PJ - 2019/20  
6 images







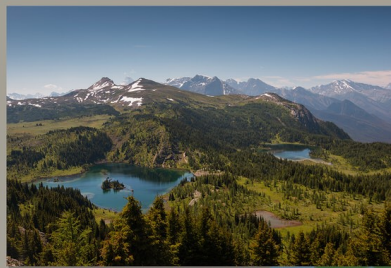
Round #1  
Travel  
6 Images



Round #2  
Travel  
6 Images



Round #3  
Travel  
6 Images

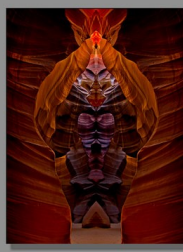


PSA 'INTERCLUB'  
Competitions  
Travel Division  
3 Rounds-2019/20



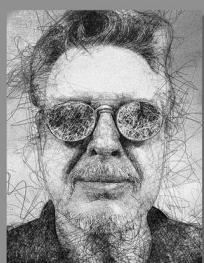
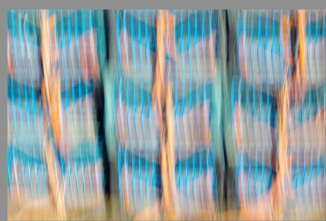


*Round 1  
Creative  
6 Images*



*Photographic  
Society of America  
'INTERCLUB'  
Competitions  
PSA Member Clubs*

*Round 2  
Creative  
6 Images*



*Round 3  
Creative  
6 Images*



# CAPA News

By Joyce Chew

What a difference a couple of months makes! It has been quite an adjustment, everything from working from home to physical and social distancing. I hope you all have been able to find some time for yourselves in your "happy place" whether it's reading a book, gardening or trying to capture that elusive image.

If you hold an individual membership with CAPA, why not try your luck at the 16th Annual CAPA Photo Challenge? Open to CAPA Individual and Family and Life Members who are Canadian Residents, this truly is a competition to shoot for as Canon is the major sponsor. The first, second and third place winners will receive a Canon camera!

The theme is Minimalism. Open Editing is allowed and you can enter two images by the April 30, 2020 deadline.

Complete details can be found at:

<https://capacanada.ca/2020-annual-sponsorship-canon/>

<https://capacanada.ca/2020-photo-challenge/>

The highlight from this year's competition season was the Silver medal the club earned in the Fall Nature Wildlife Competition, placing 2nd of 43 clubs with 147.5 points. Congratulations also to George Mitchell for earning the 3rd place Award of Merit for his image "Jumping Spider" with 27.5 points!

To keep up to date with CAPA, you can read the CAPA newsletters online at:

<https://capacanada.ca/capa-newsletters/>

Finally, next year CAPA's biannual camera conference will be held close to home in Moncton, New Brunswick



hosted by the Focus Camera Club. Mark June 25-27, 2021 in your calendars and plan to visit the Université de Moncton for the conference! This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with photographers from across the country. Registration opens in December 2020 and to stay up to date with all the latest details as they become available you can sign up for the CCC2021 newsletter by visiting <https://en.ccc2021.com/>

Stay Safe and Happy Creating!

Joyce S. K. Chew





## Fine Art- Hosted by CAPA

Entry			
No.	Image Title-Photographer Name	Score	Awards
1	Clinking the Glasses – Nick Honig	24.5	
2	Oil and Water 6709- Viki Gaul	23.5	
3	Edinburg Past and Present - Darryl Robertson	21	
4	Alien Eyes – George Mitchell	21	
5	Rusty Dodge 600 - Joyce S. K. Chew	20.5	
6	Farm Sentinels – Antonio Solis	20	
Total Score		130.5	Tied 19th of 32 clubs

## Nature Wildlife Digital- Hosted by CAPA

Entry			
No.	Image Title-Photographer Name	Score	Awards
1	Jumping Spider- George Mitchell	27.5	3 <sup>rd</sup> Merit- Nature
2	Lupinus polyphyllus- Marian Boyer	25	
3	Loopwing Aphideater- Paul Boyer	24.5	
4	Alabama Hills with Mt. Whitney – Laszlo Podor	24	
5	Drake Takeoff 5570- Viki Gaul	24	
6	Spoonbill Landing 4530- Fred Greene	22.5	
Total Score		147.5	2nd of 43 clubs Silver Medal

## Digital Open- Hosted by CAPA

Entry			
No.	Image Title-Photographer Name	Score	Awards
1	Gliding Spoonbill 5628- Fred Greene	24.5	
2	Bald Eagle Pond Flight – Laszlo Podor	23.5	
3	Nest Building Romance- France Boutilier	23.5	
4	A Kitchen Close-up- Viki Gaul	22	
5	Hoverfly on Pink – George Mitchell	21	
6	Milky Way at Clam Pond - Darryl Robertson	23.5	
Total Score		138	14 <sup>th</sup> of 45 clubs

## Digital Theme- Lines and Curves- Hosted by CAPA

Entry			
No.	Image Title-Photographer Name	Score	Awards
1	Tide Sculpture 3936- Fred Greene	22	
2	Calgary Library- France Boutilier	22	
3	Hollis Street- Larry Bootland	20.5	
4	The Harp Musician – Nick Honig	19.5	
5	Suzies Chinese Lanterns 0538- Viki Gaul	25	
6	Curvy Dunes - Laszlo Podor	23	
Total Score		132	Tied 9 <sup>th</sup> of 40 clubs

## Digital Creative- Hosted by CAPA

Entry			
No.	Image Title-Photographer Name	Score	Awards
1	Arctic Fox – Darryl Robertson	25	
2	Celebration- Antonio Solis	23	
3	Up Down and All Around – Katherine Kepkay	23	
4	Serap Sari 13 mono - Keith Vaughan	25	
5	Sweet Emery- Viki Gaul	23.5	
6	Mursi Child – Nanciellen Davis	23	
Total Score		142.5	12th of 52 clubs

## Canada- My Country- Hosted by CAPA

Entry			
No.	Image Title-Photographer Name	Score	Awards
1	VIA Rail Disaster Clean-Up – Keith Vaughan	20.5	
2	Eagle in Flight 8039- Viki Gaul	23.5	
3	I am the pretty Yellow Warbler – Nick Honig	22	
4	His Grandchildren's Hero – Pam Mills	23	
5	Team Doggie Roping - Joyce S. K. Chew	23.5	
6	Annie Lake - Darryl Robertson	23	
Total Score		135.5	Tied 12 <sup>th</sup> of 35 clubs



Photo by Laszlo Podor

# Nature Photography In Ecuador

Text and photos by George Mitchell

## Introduction

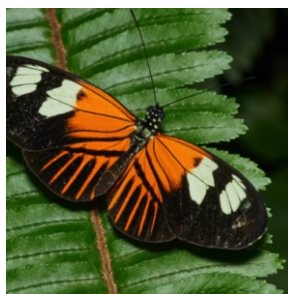
Pip and I were in Ecuador from the 2nd of January through the 25th of March, 2020. This was the fourth year in which we have spent a significant part of the winter there. Our stay was cut short by the lockdown measures instituted by Ecuador (and Canada) due to the pandemic crisis. While looking through and organizing my photos from this visit, I was wondering whether we will get back to that spectacular country. Travel might be difficult for some years and we are not getting younger.

As in other years, we stayed for about a month in different places. We spent January in Mindo, a small town on the western slope of the Andes. We rented a cabin at the Hacienda San Vicente, just a short walk from the town.. Mindo is in a region of cloud forest famous for its biodiversity. At an elevation of about 1200 meters, it is temperate, wet, and very green. Many of the images in the subsequent pages are from the Mindo area.

For February, we moved to an apartment in the city of Cuenca. Cuenca has about the same population as Halifax and is in the sierra (highlands) in the south of Ecuador. Our apartment was in the centre of Cuenca, so the contrast with Mindo was great. Incidentally, Cuenca has quite a large number of foreign residents and has the reputation of being the safest city in Ecuador. Also, Cuenca is the only city in the country with tap water safe to drink without boiling. While based in Cuenca, we took a trip to a lodge in the eastern lowlands called Finca Heimatlos, staying five nights. In travelling around Ecuador, we often hire a private vehicle. On this occasion we decided to risk a bus. Buses in Ecuador are unbelievably inexpensive, costing about a dollar per hour. Finca Heimatlos was about five hours from Cuenca, through beautiful country. The buses are comfortable, but there are some downsides to a bus trip. The drivers seem intent on breaking their previous time record. Since the roads have many sharp curves and steep cliffs, this can be disconcerting. Another negative: often a very bad movie is shown, with the sound set very high. Ecuadorians do not mind loud! But, our accommodation at Finca Heimatlos was very good, as was the nature. All

of the moths and most of the frogs (below) are from Finca Heimatlos.

On the 1st of March we moved again, to an apartment in Quito. As a large city and the nation's capital, Quito is a whole other story which I will not say more about here. On the 9th of March, we set off for a four night stay at a remote lodge in the lowland rainforest of the east, near the border with Peru. At this point, we were aware that the corona virus was a big problem in China, but we had no idea that disaster was imminent. We spent five very pleasant days at Sani Lodge, in blissful ignorance. On the way back up the Napo river (a four hour boat ride) we saw a number of boats on the way down to the several lodges. Clearly there were people more blissfully ignorant than us! The day after our return we were stuck in our Quito apartment. We were fortunate to get a seat on the first repatriation flight from Quito to Toronto on the 25th of March.





## Butterflies and Moths

The order Lepidoptera consists of a number of butterfly families and a number of moth families. How can you tell a butterfly from a moth? Butterflies have long, narrow antennae with a club-shaped tip. Moth antennae are often feather-like but can be narrow without the club-shaped tip. Most butterflies are active in daylight while most moths are active at night. Many butterflies have vibrant colours while most moths are more subdued in colour. Moths have a greater range of body type (as shown in Figure 1). In evolutionary terms, moths pre-date butterflies. There are roughly ten times more moth species than butterfly species. This is perhaps contrary to our experience. We see fewer moths because they are nocturnal and many are cryptic. In Ecuador there are about 3,000 species of butterflies and about 30,000 species of moths. Butterflies occupy many niches: some prefer sunlight and are found in clearings; some live near the forest floor; others keep to the upper layers of the forest.

A small sample of butterflies is shown in Figure 2. Most butterflies rest with their wings closed, showing the underside of the wings, as in panel 1 of Figure 2. The dorsal side of the wings is usually more colourful, so I try to catch them with their wings open. One of the more striking groups are the clearwings or glasswings. Their wings lack scales, so they are transparent. Panel 16 shows a beautiful, delicate clearwing, *Greta oto*, which is quite common in the Mindo area. Two other clearwings are shown in panels 9 (a Pink Satyr) and panel 17. The butterfly in panel 19 is in the skipper family. Skippers are

fairly small, and have a stockier body and larger compound eyes than other families. Panel 4 shows a skipper and a clearwing competing for a bird dropping (yuk!). They are after the minerals required for sperm and/or egg production.

Moths can be found at night near bright lights, an attraction which is not understood. One idea is that they navigate using the moon, and a light on the ground results in their flight becoming a spiral towards the light.

To attract moths, lodges often put out a white sheet and illuminate it with lights. Finca Heimatlos, which we visited in February, has such a thing. When we arrived at Heimatlos the manager told me that there would not be many moths because the moon was near full phase. He was right! On subsequent nights, I went to the light later when the moon was low, and there were plenty of moths.

In Figure 1 I have put together a grouping of twenty moths. All of these are from one location, Finca Heimatlos in the eastern lowlands. I have photos of many (many!) moths from various regions of Ecuador. Some species are widespread, but most I have seen only once. At a glance you can see a range of shapes and patterns. Some are quite like butterflies, and others mimic wood or bark. Perhaps the brown species rest on brown tree limbs during the day, and the green species hide on moss-covered trees. Some

moths spend the day on the underside of leaves. The creature in the upper right panel might be taken for a wasp but is a wasp-moth. Obviously, being a wasp mimic gives a moth protection from birds. .



## Beetles

It is well known that there are many beetles (order Coleoptera) in the world. Entomologists estimate that



there are about one million species, many as yet undescribed. There could be about 200,000 species in Ecuador! I have not been counting the number of different species I have seen in the country, but perhaps a couple of hundred. Beetles are defined as insects in which the front pair of wings are hardened into wing-cases (called elytra).

Figure 3 is a collage of twelve beetles. I have kept the number small so that details can be seen clearly. I have a collage of forty-eight different beetles: if you would like a copy of this large collage, send me a request by e-mail. All of these beetles are small, one centimetre or less, so the images are true macro images. (I will describe my photographic equipment at the end of this article.)

Even this small sample illustrates the great range of colours and patterns that beetles possess. Here is a question: do these distinctive patterns serve as identifiers so that a beetle can find members of its own species? Or, do they give a warning to predators that the beetle is unappetizing? Possibly both? I don't know. Whatever the purpose, they are beautiful to us.

## Leafhoppers and Treehoppers

Leafhoppers and treehoppers are closely related but have very different behavior. Leafhoppers hop, so approaching one is tricky. Treehoppers move slowly and don't hop, so they are much easier to photograph. Leafhoppers and treehoppers are tiny insects in the same superfamily Membracoidea, of the order Hemiptera (true bugs). They all feed on plant sap.

In Figure 4, the top row shows three immature forms called nymphs. The odd, technicolour creature in the top left panel of Figure 4 is a leafhopper nymph. I think the little insect in the central panel of the top row is also a leafhopper nymph but I am not sure. In the top right, a treehopper nymph is emerging from the shell of its previous instar. Treehoppers pass through five stages, or instars, from egg to adult.

The other nine panels of Figure 4 contain seven leafhoppers and two treehoppers. The leafhoppers all have the same elongated shape but very different colours and patterns. The left panel of the third row from the top shows a treehopper. If you look closely, you will see an eye low down, just above its legs. The grey and white structure above the eye is a specialized pronotum or

helmet. These can have amazing shapes to enhance camouflage or mimicry. In quite a few species the pronotum looks like a thorn and so another common name for treehoppers is "thorn bugs". The treehopper in the lower right is quite special. Why is a fairly long story. Some treehoppers have a relationship with ants, called mutualism. Treehoppers produce honeydew (concentrated sap) which ants desire, and in return, the ants protect the treehoppers as they grow. Thus both insects benefit. Looking at the pronotum of that treehopper (lower right) you see that the rear part of it is black and, from certain angles, looks a lot like an ant!





## Frogs

The 6300 species of frogs (order Anura) are organized into 55 families. Some of these families are given common English names, such as tree frogs, leaf frogs, rain frogs, toads, glass frogs, poison-dart frogs, and so on. Ecuador has about 600 species. The poison-dart frogs are diurnal, but most frogs are nocturnal. To see them, you must go into the forest at night. I have done quite a lot of night hiking. Doing this alone can be frightening without the right mental approach. Your reason tells you that the pumas and jaguars don't bother people, but you still wonder what could be behind you in the darkness.

Figure 5 shows a few of the frogs that I found on this trip. Of the twelve species, I have identifications for just four. The top right panel has a Red-skirted tree frog. The left panel in the third row down shows a Two-lined tree frog. Below that, the bottom row left panel shows a juvenile palm frog. Lastly, on the right of the bottom row is a member of the Monkey-frog genus. The Monkey-frog is large, at 5 or 6 centimetres in length. The others are small, typically 2 to 4 centimetres.



## My Camera Gear

I use two cameras with different mounts and different lenses. Both work quite well. I will describe them separately.

(a) An APS-C system: One of my cameras is an older Sony, the A77 II. It has an APS-C size sensor with 24 megapixels and a built in pop-up flash. With this camera, I use a Laowa 60 mm macro lens. While 60 mm is a bit too short a focal length, this lens is actually a “super macro” because it reaches double the magnification of other macro lenses. I find it useful for really small subjects. I use the pop-up flash with a diffuser. The pop-up flash is important because the cycle time between exposures is very short. Often I am dealing with a moving creature and want to make several exposures in quick succession.

(b) A full-frame system: My second, newer, camera is a full-frame Sony A7R II with a 42 megapixel sensor. I have a Sony 90 mm macro lens for this camera. Sony's A7 series of cameras do not have pop-up flashes. I use, therefore, a separate flash mounted in the hot shoe and

equipped with a diffuser. The advantage of this system over the A77 II is that the 42 megapixel sensor allows more extreme cropping. The 90 mm lens is very sharp and I can crop quite severely and retain good image quality. The main disadvantage of this system, with the attached flash unit, is that I cannot take several pictures in quick succession because the flash needs time to cycle (i.e. to recharge). Another smaller, disadvantage is that this system, with a heavier lens and an attached flash, is a bit less comfortable to handle, despite the fact that the camera itself is smaller and lighter than the A77 II.



Figure 1: Butterflies and Moths

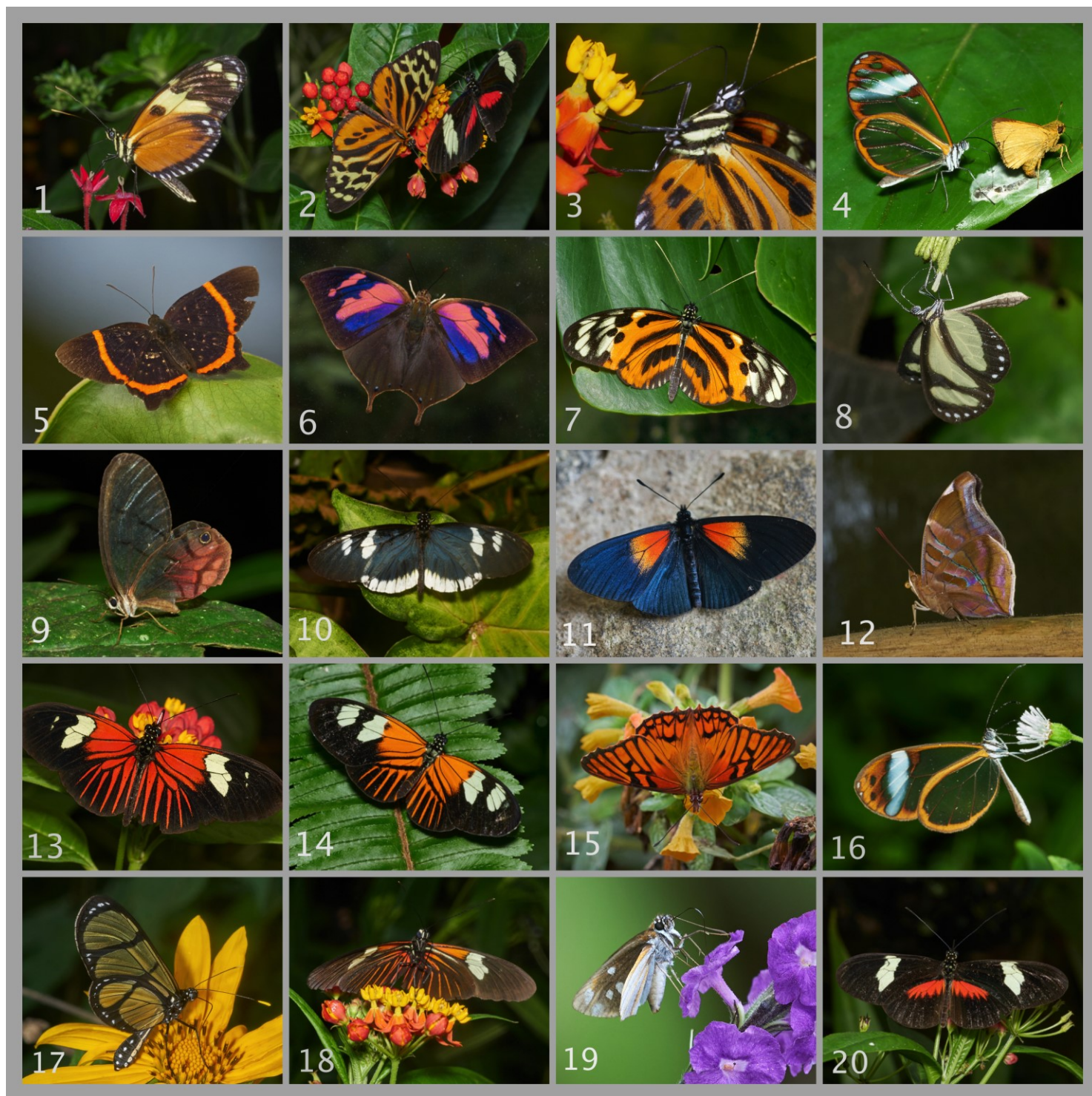




Figure 2: Moths

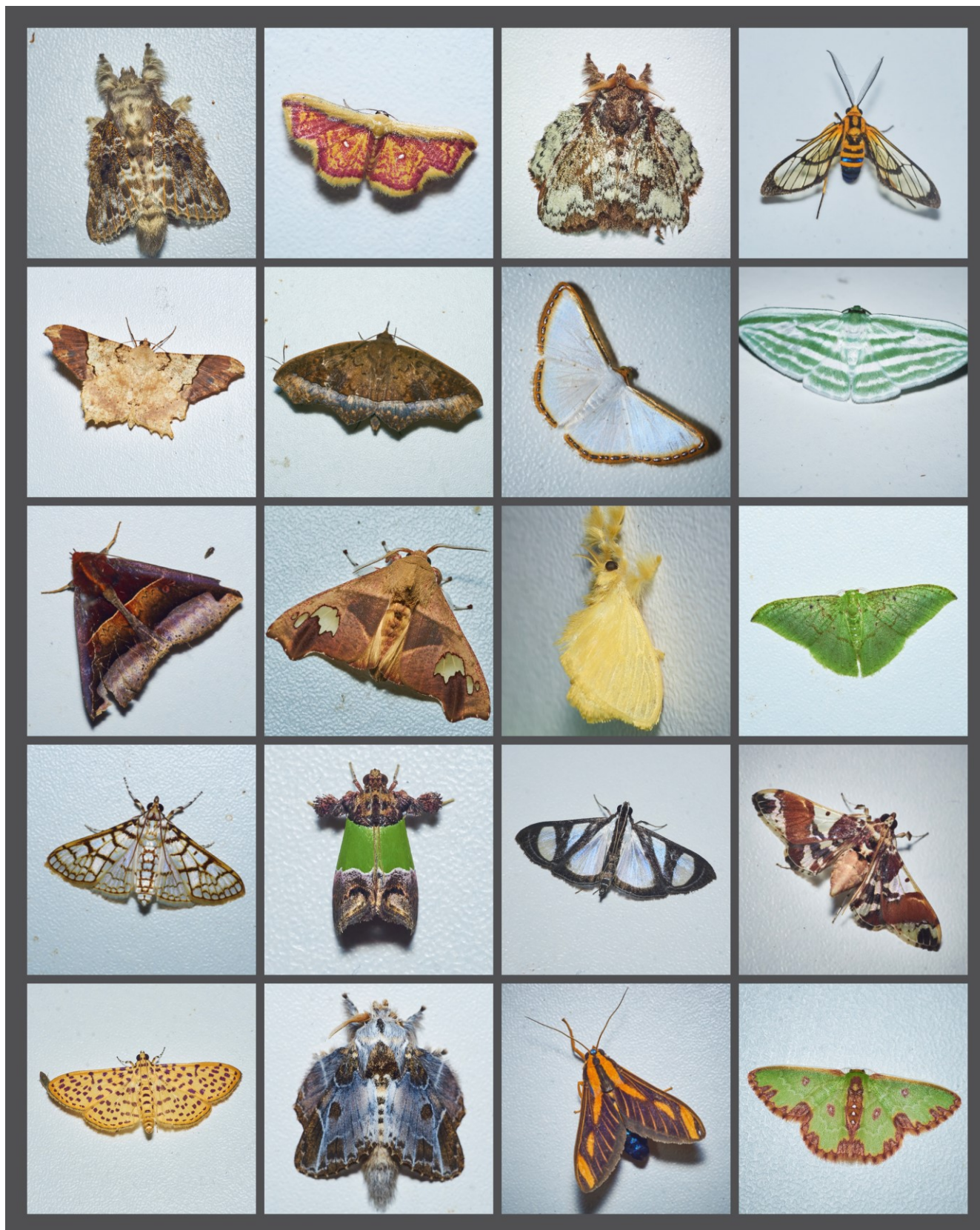




Figure 3: Beetles





**Figure 4: Leafhoppers and Treehoppers**





Figure 5: Frogs





## Trophy and Award Presentation

### Mayor of Halifax Trophy

Taylor Head Park Dean Hirtle

### Doris & Laurie Hancock Trophy

Best image in the Print category.

2nd Place Certificate Ron Pitts "Polar Express"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Darryl Robertson "Juvenile Ruby-throated Hummingbird"

### Reid Sweet Trophy

The best images in the Pictorial category

2nd Place Certificate Viki Gaul "Birches and Crow 5202"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Ron Pitts "Wet and Wild"

### Peter Herschorn Trophy

The Best Seascape / Landscape image selected from the Pictorial category.

Trophy + Bronze Medal Darryl Robertson "Milky Way Near Peggy's"

### Camera Shop Trophy

The best images in the Nature category

2nd Place Certificate Antonio Solis "Sparrow Ruffled Feathers"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Viki Gaul "Feeding Time 2767"

### Robert Thorpe Memorial Trophy

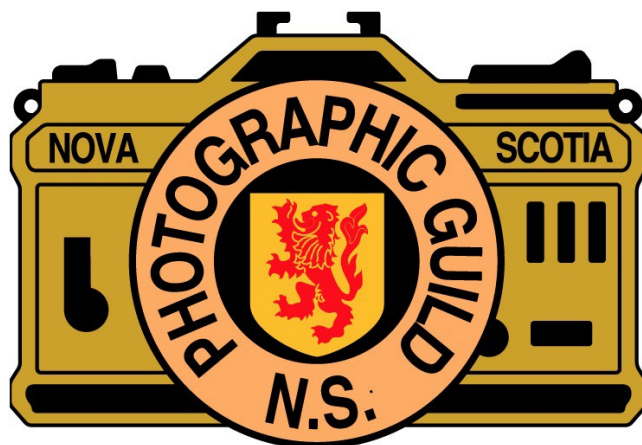
Best Botanical image, selected from the Nature category.

Trophy + Bronze Medal Mervyn Kumar-Misir "Wild Flower"

### Mary Primrose Memorial Trophy

Best Wildflower Image, selected from the Nature category

Trophy + Bronze Medal Mervyn Kumar-Misir "Wild Flower"



### Abbotts Trophy

The best images in the Creative category

2nd Place Certificate Keith Vaughan "Bottles in a Wall"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Viki Gaul "Black Cat Cafe 1816"

### Michael Walsh Trophy

The best images in the Photo Travel category

2nd Place Certificate Fred Greene "Bryce 2152"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Joyce S. K. Chew "Encouraging the Oxen"

### Atlantic Photo Trophy

The best images in the Photo Journalism category

2nd Place Certificate Viki Gaul "What was I Thinking"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Joyce S. K. Chew "68 Completes Barrel Roll"

### George Ghiz Sports Action Trophy

The best images in peak sports action taken from the Photo Journalism category

2nd Place Certificate Viki Gaul "What was I Thinking"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Joyce S. K. Chew "68 Completes Barrel Roll"

## Robert K. Mann Trophy

The highest number of points in the competition whose theme has been chosen by the Guild

Executive. - "Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still"

## Dorothea Lange

2nd Place Certificate Laszlo Podor "Pollinator"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Viki Gaul "What Was I Thinking"

## Nova Scotia Bird Society Trophy

Trophy + Bronze Medal Nick Honig "Sharp Shinned Hawk"

## Atlantic Geoscience Society Trophy

Trophy + Bronze Medal Nick Honig "Cape Breton Coastal Rocks"

## Last Billion Years Trophy

Trophy + Bronze Medal Nick Honig "Cape Breton Coastal Rocks"

## Reta Cook Trophy

The best theme image of the annual Nova Scotia Nature Trust competition.

"Nova Scotia Freshwater/Wetlands"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Viki Gaul "Redwinged Blackbird Singing 2342"



## Frederick Joyce Trophy

The best theme images in the Portrait category

2nd Place Certificate Dean Hirtle "Laura"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Fred Greene "Sarah-2441-OP"

## Sam Yanofsky Trophy

Best images in the Humour category

2nd Place Certificate France Boutilier "I just need to find the loose wire"

Trophy + Bronze Medal Dean Hirtle "What do you mean he just ran away"





Completes barrel roll - Joyce Chew



Encouraging the Oxen—Joyce Chew



Black cat café—Viki Gaul



Juvenile Ruby throated by hummingbird -  
Darryl Robertson



Wet and wild - Ron Pitts



Feeding time - Viki Gaul





What do you mean, he just ran away - Dean Hirtle



Sarah 2441 - Fred Greene



I just need to find the loose wire - France Boutillier



What was I thinking - Viki Gaul

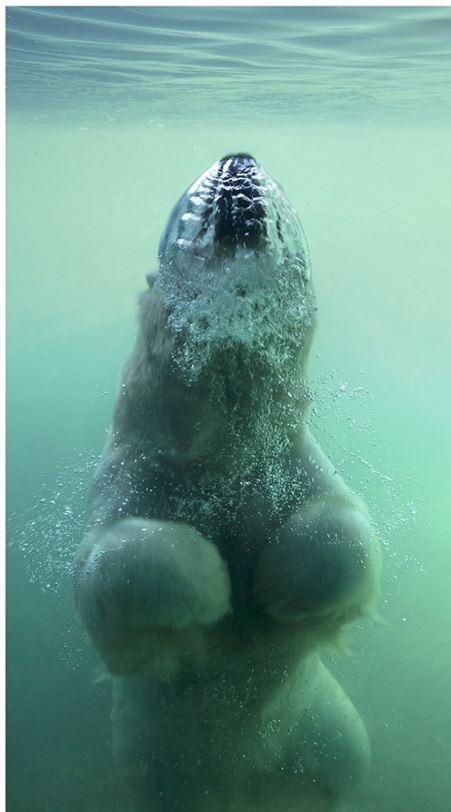




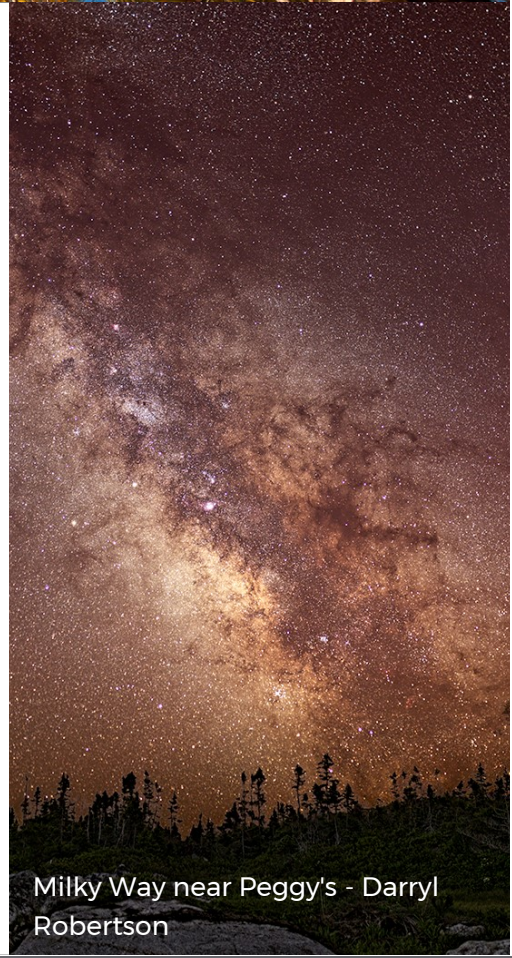
Birches and crow - Viki Gaul



Botanical - Mervyn Kumar-Misir

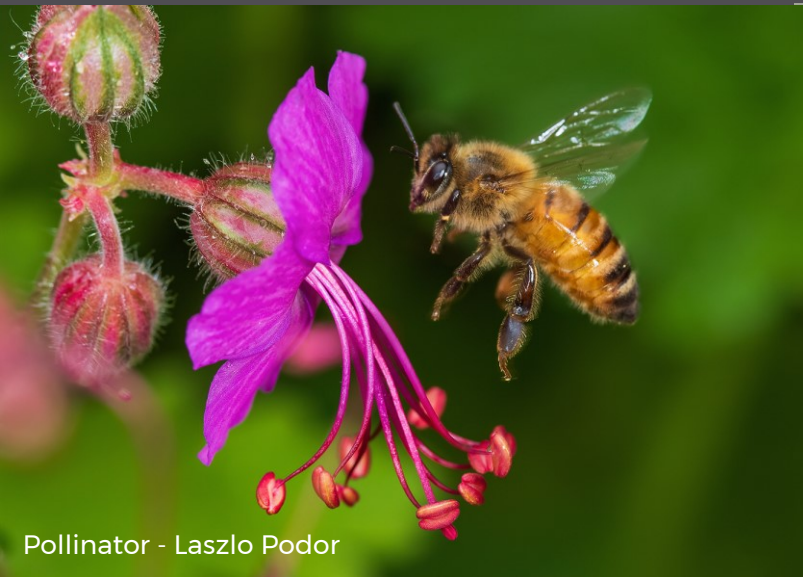


Polar express - Ron Pitts



Milky Way near Peggy's - Darryl Robertson





Pollinator - Laszlo Podor



Sparrow Ruffled Feathers - Antonio Solis



Laura - Dean Hirtle



Bottles in a wall - Keith Vaughan



Taylor Head Park - Dean Hirtle





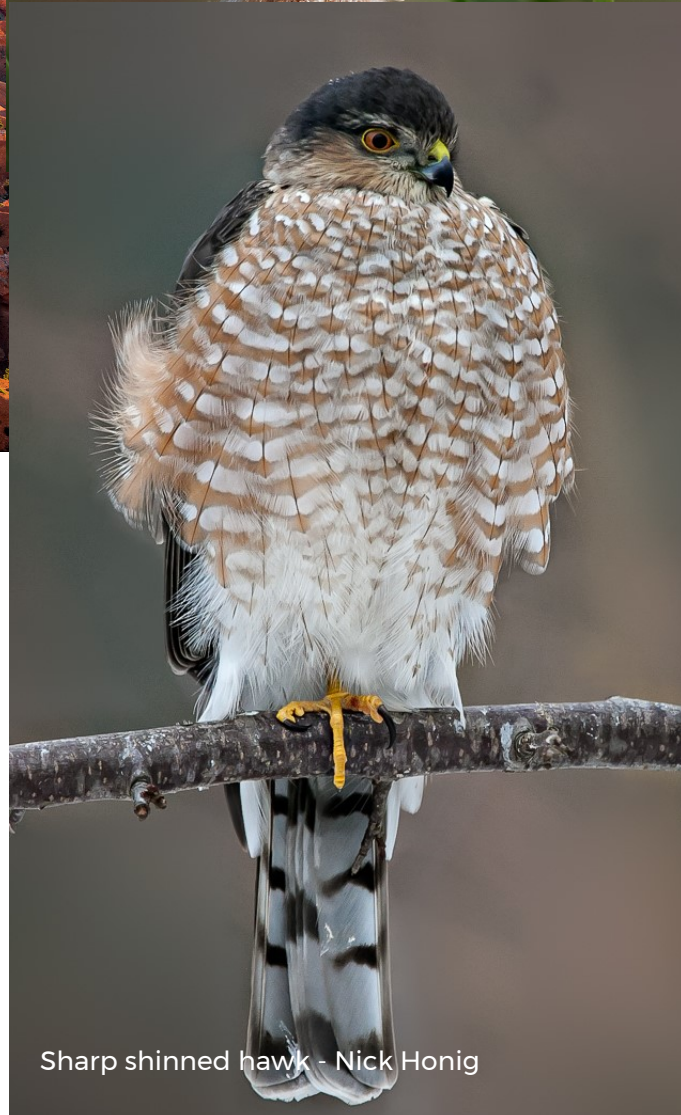
Cape Breton coastal rocks - Nick Honig



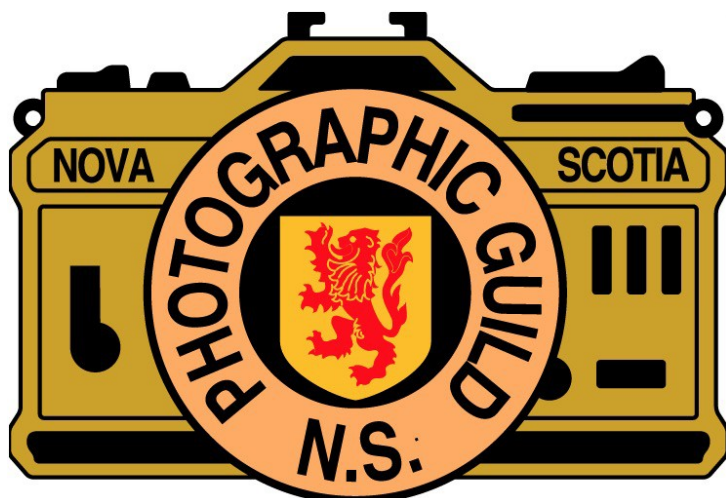
Bryce 2152 - Fred Greene



Red winged blackbird singing - Viki Gaul



Sharp shinned hawk - Nick Honig





## Trophy and Award Presentation, banquet photos



1st AGS & Last Billion Years-Nick Honig



CAPA Award - Joyce Chew & Laszlo Podor



CAPA Volunteer - Viki Gaul



Creative Category - 1st Antonio Solis



Creative Category - 1st Viki Gaul



Creative Category - 2nd Joyce Chew





Distinction Award Bronze - Jane Kelly



Distinction Award Diamond - Fred Greene



Distinction Award Double Diamond - Viki Gaul



Distinction Award Silver - Antonio Solis



Humor 1st - Dean Hirtle



Humor 2nd - France Boutilier



Journalism 1st - Joyce Chew



Journalism 2nd - Viki Gaul



Journalism cumulative points 1st - Joyce Chew



Journalism cumulative points 2nd - Dean Hirtle



Sports Action 1st - Joyce Chew



Sport Action 2nd - Viki Gaul





Mayor of Halifax - Dean Hirtle & Wayne Mason



NS Bird Society Trophy 1st - Nick Honig



Mervyn Kumar-Misir Trophy 1st (tie) - Joyce Chew & Antonio Solis



Mervyn Kumar-Misir Trophy 2nd - Laszlo Podor



Past president Pin - Darryl Robertson



PGNS Volunteer of the year - Dean Hirtle





Nature, botanical 1st - Mervyn Kumar-Misir



Best wildflower 1st - Mervyn Kumar-Misir



Best nature 1st - Viki Gaul



Best nature 2nd - Antonio Solis



Nature cumulative points 1st - Fred Greene



Nature cumulative points 2nd - Laszlo Podor





Open Category 1st - Ron Pitts



Open Category 2nd - Viki Gaul



Best seascape/landscape 1st - Darryl Robertson



Reta Cook Trophy - NS Nature Trust 1st (tie) - Viki Gaul & Rochelle Owen



Open cumulative points 1st - Fred Greene



Open cumulative points 2nd - Laszlo Podor





Portrait 1st - Fred Greene



Portrait 2nd - Dean Hirtle



Prints cumulative points 1st - Viki Gaul



Prints cumulative points 2nd - Viki Gaul



Best Print 1st - Darryl Robertson



Best Print 2nd - Ron Pitts





Photographer of the Year 1st - Viki Gaul



Photographer of the Year 2nd - Fred Greene



Photographer of the Year 3rd - Laszlo Podor



Photographer of the Year 4th - Joyce Chew



Photographer of the Year 5th - Antonio Solis





RK Mann Trophy 1st - Viki Gaul



RK Mann Trophy 2nd - Laszlo Podor



PSA/CAPA digital cumulative points 1st - Viki Gaul



PSA/CAPA digital cumulative points 1st - Fred Greene



PSA/CAPA prints cumulative points 1st - Viki Gaul



PSA/CAPA prints cumulative points 1st - Fred Greene





Schooner Cove Trophy 1st - Viki Gaul



Schooner Cove Trophy 2nd - Laszlo Podor



Silent Essay 1st (tie) - Fred Greene & Antonio Solis



Silent Essay 2nd - Darryl Robertson



Sight & Sound Essay 1st (tie) - Fred Greene & Viki Gaul



Sight & Sound Essay 2nd - Darryl Robertson





Travel Category 1st - Viki Gaul



Travel Category 2nd - Fred Greene



Travel cumulative points 1st - Laszlo Podor

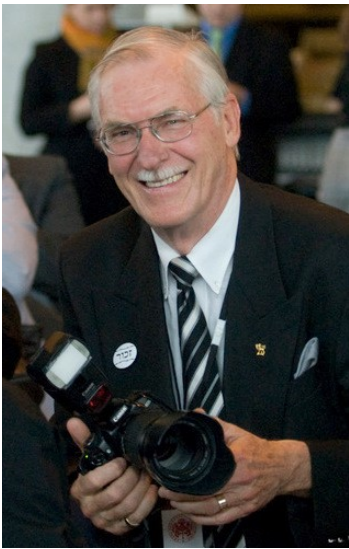


Travel cumulative points 2nd - Dean Hirtle



# A Passion for Photography

Text and photos by Frank H. Scheme



As a young boy growing up in Lima, Peru, back in the 50's and 60's I watched my father take pictures with his Leica camera. He then painstakingly developed the black and white film in his dark room at the back of my closet. The room was filled with pungent smells from trays of chemicals which revealed photos at various stages of

development below long lines of negatives which hung dripping on overhead wires.

My earliest attempts with a Kodak Brownie camera came during annual bible summer camps by the ocean, followed by years at school, our country club, high school and eventual migration to Canada back in 1968. By then, I had graduated to more sophisticated photo equipment, such as an early version of a camera with square rotating flash cubes! But during this time, it was not yet a passion, just a way of documenting images of travel and people for future reference.

After marrying and moving to Brazil in 1974 my life-long interest in photography took a serious turn when my wife gave me a birthday gift of a professional Canon FT professional camera with several lenses, filters and travel case, from a friend who took pictures for a Japanese magazine in Sao Paulo.

The camera-beast in me had finally awakened! Since my work took me to every corner of Brazil, Latin America and occasionally to India and Africa, the faithful camera never left my side, allowing me to capture thousands of moments in time on slides and prints.

When I retired a couple of years ago and pondered what to do next, the idea of turning my hobby and passion for photography into a second career popped up. Why not! One is never too old to be creative and if you look in the right places, there are a million images just waiting to be captured, so the answer was yes!

The advent of digital photography offered limitless

freedom to shoot one frame after another and the flick of a button would simply erase undesired pictures.

My first digital camera was a "point and shoot" pocket camera with a powerful zoom lens. I spent many months experimenting and testing every aspect of this new technology. It didn't take long to embrace digital photography.

In time I acquired a professional digital camera, several lenses, power packs and portable flash unit, filters, tripod, monopod and a travel bag for it all. Every passing month brings new advances in technology and better equipment, so the learning goes on and upgrading continues.



Learning how to process digital images is also a whole new ballgame. Sure, photography books and a mentor are a very good way to avoid mistakes, but endless days of practice are the best way to improve. When you are retired, time is of course, the one thing you have plenty of.

Capturing a smile, a hug, a tear, a family moment, the changing moods of a river, a breathtaking dawn or sunset, or an animal in the wild, continues to fascinate and challenge me and I don't regret making the decision to start a second career.





Photo by Viki Gaul