

# Bluenose Focus

FEBRUARY 2018 EDITION

Volume 52, Issue 4



**Member's Corner**

**100 Years of Halifax Explosion**

**CAPA & PSA News**

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## The Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia

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Cover page photo: Darryl Robertson



# EDITOR's CORNER

*When I looked back at past issues I realized I was reading part of PGNS history. Now it is up to you to write today's PGNS story for future members*

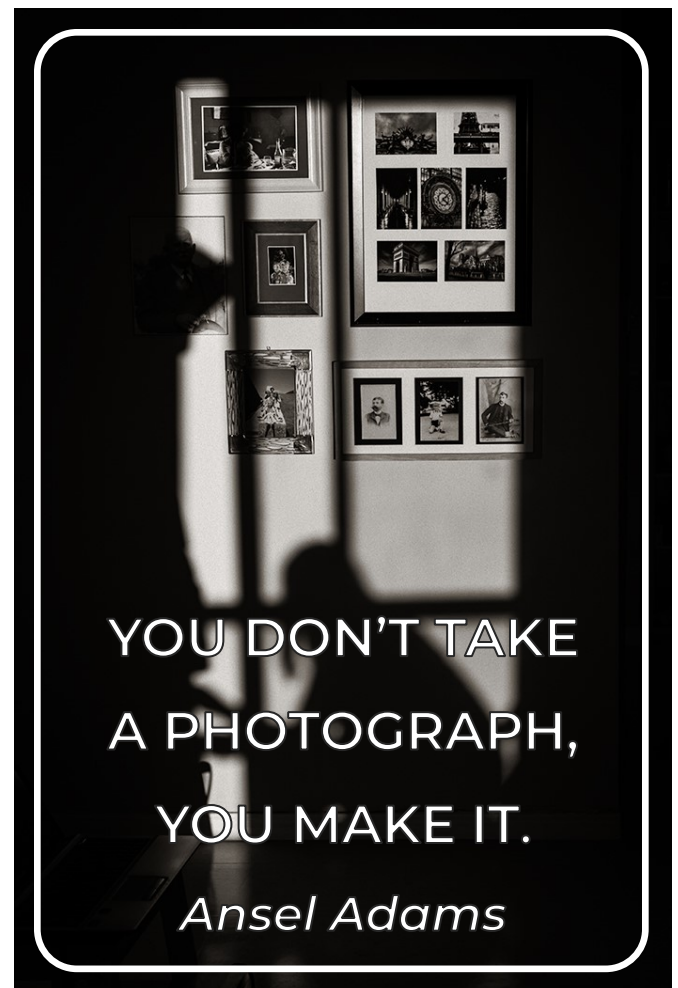
This Bluenose Focus bulletin find us with February almost gone and with it most of Winter is behind us. We are most likely thinking of the coming Spring and, why not, Summer. However there will still be plenty of opportunities to capture winter with our cameras before is gone. I certainly would like to have a bit more snow :-)

Together with the usual updates from CAPA, PSA, and members this year we had the celebrations of the 100th years of the Halifax Explosion. PGNS was asked to recreate the original shots taken days after the explosion, much as it was done back in 1987. It was a great opportunity to contribute to the city and also to look back to what PGNS has done over the years. Just look at the group photo from 1987, those looks, that gear!

I want to send a big thank you to everyone in PGNS that contributes with the bulletin. When I looked back at past issues I realized I was reading part of PGNS history. Now it is up to you to write today's PGNS story for future members.

I really hope you enjoy this issue.

Your editor,  
Pedro/Pierre Guynot de Boismenu



*Photo: Pierre Guynot de Boismenu, Text: Ansel Adams*



# President's Message

I think sometimes we need to be reminded about just how many photographic opportunities the Guild offers its members every year. None of these events would happen without the effort, time and expertise given by the Guild executive. I thank them all.

**2018** A new year. We are less than half way through the Guild program for this season and yet we have already done so much. Five field trips to annual favourites and new places, six seminars, four competitions, one silent essay competition, a Canada 150 show & tell, slide nostalgia night, an opener and a Christmas dinner.

In 2017 we had seminars from Peter Zwicker (My Journey), Jim Neale (Sports Photography), Paul Illsley (Arial Images), Cheryl Hassen (Sensibility, Style and Signature), Joyce Chew (Telling a story with Your Images) and Mervyn Kumar-Misir (Sight and Sound Essays). Rob Fensome and Lorraine Thompson are speaking on January 15 (Magnificent Angkor), Laszlo Podor in February (Post Production), Fred Greene in March (POY), Paul Newton and Sherry Hudson in April (Iceland) and Kas Stone in May (Beyond Technique).

We have been on field trips to the Dingle (Mervyn Kumar-Misir), Laszlo and Maria Podor's garden, the Blue Mountain (Bob and Wendy McDonald), Parrsboro blueberry fields (Clarence Nowlan) and Clam Harbour (Eugene Mio). In May we have motorcycle racing at AMP (Pam Mills) and Lewis Lake for songbirds (Terry Boswell). And to end the season, in June we have three field trips - Avondale (Dean Hirtle), Laszlo and Maria's garden again and a surprise from Viki Gaul.

This season we are emphasizing essays. Joyce Chew conducted a seminar on how to tell a story with your images and Mervyn Kumar-Misir showed us Video Studio as an alternative to ProShow for sight and sound essays on a PC. I demonstrated FotoMagico for us Mac users. We have had the silent essay competition, and for the first time everyone could participate (the essays were created from submitted images). The sight and sound essay competition is fast approaching and these essays are always a highlight of the season and a major

component of the annual spring show. If you have not started working on your sight and sound essay, now is the time.

The annual spring show is in April and May has the always-exciting AGM. April also has the Trophy Night competition and the Awards Banquet is in May. Workshops include Portrait Lighting in February (Mervyn Kumar-Misir) and Peter Steeper's home studio in March.

The Guild has participated in two special events. Joyce Chew and Teunis Obdam (with assistance from Dean Hirtle, Kent Speiran and myself) created a special sight and sound essay for Photopolis, shown at the Viewpoint Gallery in October. And on December 6, at exactly 9:05 AM, 17 Guild members took photographs at different locations in Halifax to duplicate original photos taken in 1917. This project, lead by Kent Speiran, is part of the Halifax Explosion Memorial Time Capsule #2 Proposal. The Guild partnered with Atlantic Photo Supply and produced archival prints that will be included in the time capsule, buried at the Halifax Explosion Memorial Bell Tower, and not opened for 50 years. You can see the photographs in the Events gallery on the Guild website.

I have summarized all these events because I think sometimes we need to be reminded about just how many photographic opportunities the Guild offers its members every year. None of these events would happen without the effort, time and expertise given by the Guild executive. I thank them all. This has been a busy season but there is a lot more to come, so take advantage of all these events; you won't be disappointed!

Darryl Robertson

PGNS President/Webmaster



# PSA News

By Viki Gaul

## Hello Fellow Guild Members and Friends...

Each season we hold 4 Competitions from which the Club's entries are selected for PSA Interclub Competitions. These competitions are held at clubs across the United States and in the United Kingdom. It is my pleasure to be able to combine the club's entries in collages, so that everyone can see the variety and the quality of work our members are contributing.

There are 5 digital categories that require 6 images from 6 different makers. PID (OPEN), and PHOTOJOURNALISM have 4 rounds per season. NATURE, PHOTO TRAVEL, and CREATIVE have 3 rounds per season. In the print category we need 4 prints from 4 different makers in 4 categories. Small Colour and Mono and Large Colour and Mono.

The club has been a long time member of the Photographic Society of America and is this year receiving its 70th anniversary recognition. We hope to celebrate this as soon as the certificate is in our hands so watch for an announcement.

At the PSA Conference this year a PGNS Member was honoured with the esteemed President's Award...The award was brought home and presented at the club just a few weeks ago. The photo and writeup are included in this newsletter. Congratulations to Terry Carroll, FPSA.

Another note of Congratulations is placed here for Laszlo Podor....Laszlo entered a monochrome photo essay in the annual International PSA Competition and it placed 3rd overall. He was awarded a beautiful PSA bronze medal. Congratulations !!!!

If anyone has any questions, comments etc., regarding PSA Individual Membership or any other aspect of PSA please contact me through the club website. I will be happy to assist you.

Viki Gaul, PGNS Club Rep for PSA



Every year the President of the Photographic Society of America chooses a worthy recipient for the President's Award....

At the PSA Conference in Pittsburgh, in 2017, our own Terry Carroll was bestowed the prestigious honour, by PSA President, Charlie Burke, Hon PSA, EPSA.

Terry was unable to be there, so his award was delivered to NS, and presented on Competition 3 night at the Museum.

Shown, are Fred Greene, HonPSA, GMPA (Past PSA President), Terry Carroll, FPSA, ACAPA, and Viki Gaul, APSA,PPSA (PGNS PSA Club Rep).

Congratulations Terry from all of us !!!! Viki

*Photo credit: Joyce Chew*

## President's Award 2017

Terry Carroll, FPSA

*Charlie Burke, HonPSA, EPSA*

Annually, the President's Award is presented to a PSA member who has performed exemplary service for the Society over a significant number of years. It is the privilege and the pleasure of the PSA President to select the recipient for this most deserving award. It is truly a challenge as there are quite a few volunteers who have contributed so much admirably and tirelessly. The 2017 Award is being given to a member who has served with great distinction in a variety of roles and responsibilities. This individual's contributions have had significant effects on large portions of the PSA membership. There have been two occasions in recent years when he was called upon to quickly step up and exercise timely judgment and expertise to address matters of a highly sensitive nature. So, it is with great pleasure and satisfaction to present the 2017 President's Award to a most deserving volunteer: **Terry Carroll, FPSA**.

Terry joined PSA in 1987 and has served in a variety of roles over the years. One of his earliest positions was that of Exhibition Standards Committee Chairman. This duty required supervision of the seven divisions' Exhibition Standards Directors as well as intensively coordinating and updating the guidance provided to PSA-recognized exhibitions. He subsequently served as the Exhibition Services Vice President for a period of six years, beginning in 2006. This position increased his duties to include supervision of the divisions' Star Ratings Directors and Who's Who Directors, as well as the PSA International Exhibition and the Recognition of Photographic Achievement (ROPA) Committee. In that many of the divisions had multiple volunteers in those roles, Terry's role was expanded significantly to include more than 40 contributors.

While serving as the Exhibition Services Vice President, Terry expended great effort and innumerable hours working on the standardization of star ratings require-

ments for all the divisions. As the requirements for some divisions were very long-standing, overcoming the associated challenges necessitated the establishment of much mutual understanding and cooperation for the benefit of all PSA members. The standardization motion was approved by the Board of Directors in 2009, with an effective date of July 1, 2010. At the same time, the ROPA program was increased with the addition of the Master and Grand Master distinctions. This significantly increased opportunities for members to gain recognition for their greater photographic achievements. As a direct result, a growth in the number of exhibitions was observed as well as noticeable improvement in member recruitment and retention.

In the Spring of 2012, Terry was called upon, without any notice, to establish a committee and serve as its chair for the purpose of forming the newly Board of Directors (BOD) approved and subsequently named Projected Image Division. The committee's task needed to be completed before the PSA Conference that year. This not only involved recommending a name for the division but establishing a division structure and proposing a slate of officers and key committee members. As a result of his stellar leadership, the BOD approved all of the committee's recommendations in sufficient time for the new division to start operating as a fully functional activity immediately upon conclusion of the 2012 San Francisco Conference.

Terry also served as a member of the Ethics Review Board for five years; he was appointed the Board Chairman for his fifth year. A year or so later, he was called upon to rejoin the Board as its Chair as several of the most experienced members became ill and could no longer serve in a leadership capacity. He stepped into his BOD appointed role with diligence and determination. Under his guidance and expertise, the Board cleared the backlog of time-consuming cases in a very reasonable period.

Printed with permission from PSA.

## Ideas!

Getting lost when trying to set the correct Depth Of Field? Want to further understand the technical reasons behind DoF?

Here's a good source of free information and material about DoF , DoF Master <http://www.dofmaster.com>

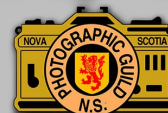
You can find online calculators, guides, techniques and more.





Round 1/3 2017-18

## NATURE

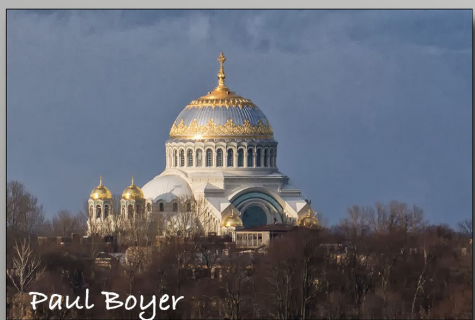


PGNS-6 images are chosen to compete with other clubs in PSA INTERCLUB Competitions.



Round 2/3 2017-18





Paul Boyer



Fred Greene



Joyce Chew



Darryl Robertson



Dean Hirtle

Round 1/3 2017-18



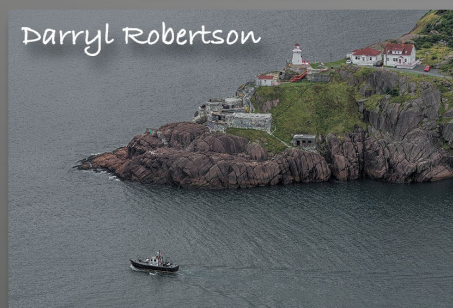
Photo Travel  
6 Images are selected to  
represent PGNS at  
PSA's Interclub Competitions



Mervyn Kumar-Misir



Joyce Chew



Darryl Robertson



Marg Nolen



Laszlo Podor



Fred Greene

Round 2/3 2017-18



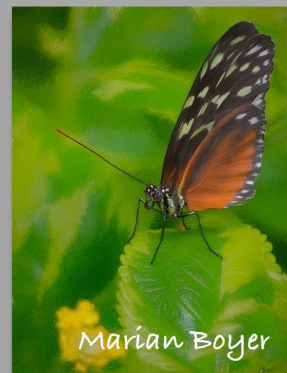
# PSA News



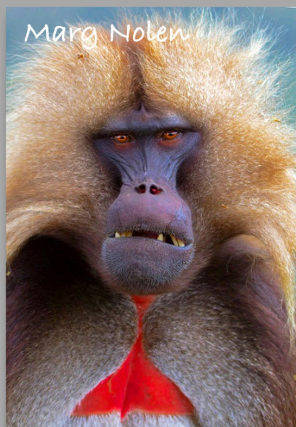
Joyce Chew



Viki Gaul



Marian Boyer



Marg Nolen

Round 1/4 2017-18



Fred Greene



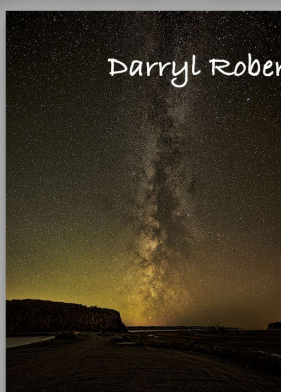
Darryl Robertson

## PID (OPEN/Pictorial)

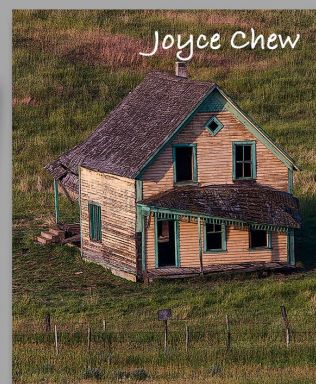
6 Images chosen to compete with Other Clubs in  
PSA's Interclub Competitions...Rounds 1 and 2



Fred Greene



Darryl Robertson



Joyce Chew



Nick Honig

Round 2/4 2017-18



Marg Nolen



Viki Gaul





Nick Honig



George Mitchell



Antonio Solís



Joyce Chew



Dean Hirtle



Fred Greene



Photo  
Journalism  
category



6 images are  
chosen from each  
category to compete  
with other clubs in  
PSA's Interclub  
Competition.



Fred Greene



Keith Vaughan



Antonio Solís



Joyce Chew



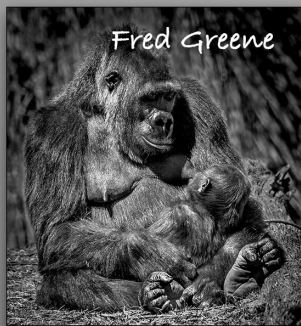
Nick Honig

PJ Round 2/4 2017-18



Viki Gaul



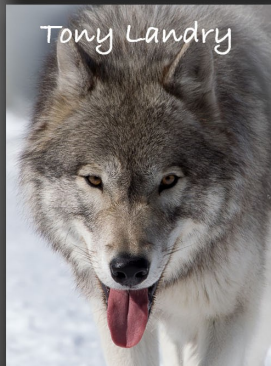


4 Large  
Monochrome Prints



**PGNS Entry**  
Round 1/4 2017-18

PRINTS  
Chosen to  
Represent  
the club at  
PSA's Interclub  
Print  
Competition  
(ICPC)  
4 Classes  
4 Prints  
each



4 Large Colour Prints



4 Small  
Colour Prints  
>>>>>

4 Small  
Mono Prints  
<<<<<







Viki Gaul



Fred Greene

4 LG  
Colour  
Prints



Marg Nolen



Dean Hirtle



Mervyn Kumar-Misir

## PGNS ENTRY

Round 2/4 2017-18

PRINTS Chosen To

Represent 'THE CLUB' @

PSA's Print

Interclub Competition (ICPC)

4 Classes-4 prints each

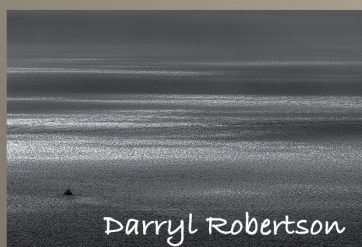
4 LG Mono Prints



Fred Greene



Viki Gaul



Darryl Robertson



Viki Gaul



Dean Hirtle



Esther Theriault



Viki Gaul

4 Sm Mono Prints

4 Sm Colour Prints



Fred Greene



Marg Nolen



Dean Hirtle



Fred Greene



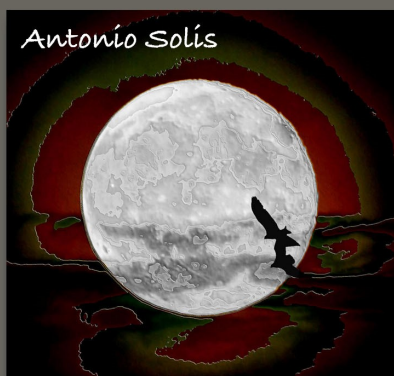


Mervyn Kumar Misir

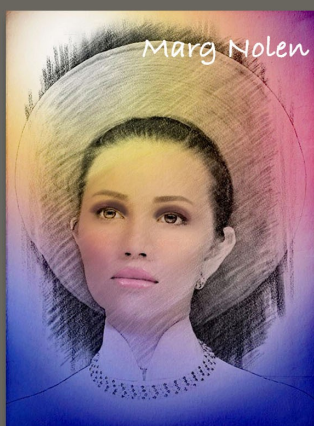


Marian Boyer

Round 1/3 2017-18



Antonio Solis



Marg Nolen



Viki Gaul



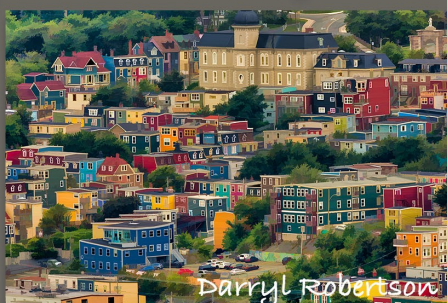
Dean Hirtle

creative  
category

6 Images chosen to represent  
PGNS at PSA Interclub  
Competitions



France Boutilier



Darryl Robertson

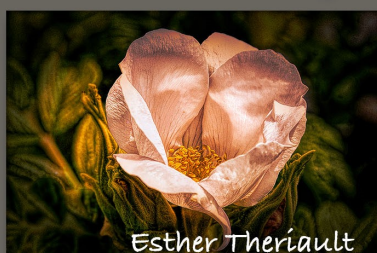


Mervyn Kumar-Misir

Round 2/3 2017-18



Joyce Chew



Esther Theriault



Viki Gaul



# CAPA News

By Joyce Chew



I hope everyone has gotten out to try and capture Canada's Winter Wonderland. The ice on the trees was very beautiful in January.

The results of the CAPA Fall round of interclub

competitions are in and PGNS is doing quite well. We were tied for 6th place out of 15 clubs with 122 points in the Print competition and we earned an HM for 6th place out of 33 clubs in the Fine Art competition with 132 points. We were 8th out of 35 clubs with 145.5 points (1 point away from an HM) in the Nature competition. Finally, we scored 139 points and earned the Silver medal for our second place finish out of 21 clubs in the Photojournalism competition! A mere one point away from being in first place. Congratulations also to Viki Gaul for earning the 1st place Award of Merit for her image "GBH and His Catch 8478" with 27 points in the Nature competition.

As a benefit of being a CAPA club, we have access to digital copies of the Canadian Camera Magazine. These are available for download on the members only section of the PGNS website. Please do not forward the pdfs to anyone else.

Finally, if you are an individual CAPA member, the 2018 CAPA challenge is due May 31, 2018. The theme is "Landscape" which can include: environmental, urban or seascapes. More details on the competition (including the awesome prizes from the sponsors, ADOBE, On1, Canon Canada, Gentec International and Topaz Labs) can be found at:

<https://capacanada.ca/2018-annual-photo-challenge/>

Happy Shooting!

Joyce S. K. Chew



"Airforce Precision", Dean Hirtle



"Loosing his grip", Viki Gaul



"C2 Duo paddles for gate", Joyce Chew



"Moto Cross in mud"  
Fred Greene



"Shooting", Laszlo Podor



"No backing up", Marg Nolen

# Halifax Explosion

By Ken Speiran

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Comparative Photography Project (2017)

At 9:04 on the morning of December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917 the SS Mont Blanc exploded as the result of a collision with the SS Imo in the Halifax Narrows. Detonation of the Mont Blanc's munitions resulted in one of the largest man-made explosions to have occurred prior to the atomic bomb in 1945. Richmond Terminal and the north-end of Halifax were obliterated. Areas immediately surrounding the Port of Halifax were devastated.

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 marked the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion, and to ensure the event was properly commemorated the Halifax Regional Municipality planned a series of events to remember and reflect on the losses and sacrifices of so many and the monumental relief effort.

Overseeing this project was the Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Advisory Committee (Committee). During the spring of 2017, a member of the Committee discovered a binder at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic titled "Halifax Explosion Before and After 1917-1987". That binder was the work of Mr. David Flemming, Director and Head Curator of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

In 1987, Mr. Flemming and a colleague were curating a 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibit of the Halifax Explosion called "A Moment in Time". Their intent was to address the many questions they received from visitors about an earlier display on the Explosion such as "Where would that be now?" or "Is that building still there?" i.e. develop a comparative photography series.

Eighteen different images, all taken between 1917 and 1919 and highlighting various locations in Halifax's north-end were chosen from numerous historical collections. A map key was also drafted. Mr. Flemming enlisted the assistance of the Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia to take "an exact, modern shot of a site depicted in a 1917-1919 photograph".

Volunteer photographers from the Guild took their photographs at precisely 9:04 AM on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1987. They met at David's house to deliver their B&W film for processing by Castle-Beveridge Photography, who developed the film and donated the 8"x10" prints for the project team. David Flemming and the Guild's photographers mounted the prints for exhibition prior to a 3:00 PM opening. "It was a great hit with the public", said Mr. Flemming.



1987 Group Photograph



# Halifax Explosion

As part of the Halifax Explosion centenary the Committee planned to revisit the 1987 comparative image series, and engaged the help of the Photographic Guild of Nova Scotia. On December 6th, 2017, a group of intrepid Guild photographers braved the wind and rain to reproduce 18 key images taken after the 1917 Halifax Explosion. In partnership with Atlantic Photo Supply, the images were printed on archival paper for the Committee and delivery to the Halifax Regional Municipality. The prints will be placed in the Halifax Explosion Memorial Time Capsule, to be opened in 2067.

The 2017 image series can be viewed at: <http://www.photoguild.ns.ca/special-events/>



2017 Group Photograph

(Left to Right) Rear: Hugh Owens, Dean Hirtle, P. Mills, Darryl Robertson, Archie McCulloch, John Wm. Webb, Eugene Mio, Vic Fraser, Joyce S. K. Chew, Middle: Mervyn Kumar-Misir, Laszlo Podor, Kent Speiran, George Mitchell, Front: Doug Ward Missing: Elio Dolente, Pierre Guynot de Boismenu, Peter Steeper

When viewed as a time series these images will add clarity to the questions posed by Mr. Flemming. Collectively, they will illustrate what has changed in the "Hydrostone" area of Halifax since just after the explosion. This has been a fascinating project and one I am glad the Guild had an opportunity to be involved with, once again.

Kent Speiran,  
Vice-President



## My Love Affair with the North

Text and photos by Frank H. Scheme

Before heading up to Nunavut, I had heard it said that the North is a "culture of creation" and it proved to be true, as there are more than 4,000 Inuit artists working in the territory, creating uniquely beautiful soap stone, antler and whale bone carvings, magnificent screened oil, acrylic and watercolor prints, stunning hand-woven tapestries, weavings and eye-catching jewelry, plus many other creative arts in ceramics, wood, glass,



beads, metal, and other forms.

I was to enjoy very fine examples of all of these during my two weeks stay in Nunavut, in addition to witnessing the making of traditional hand-crafted clothing and outerwear.

Strolling along dirt roads of Northern hamlets, I could hear the sounds of drills and sanders at work on soap stone, the chipping of antler and bone, the rhythmic sound of looms and hydraulic pressing of prints. Each one telling a story that helps preserve Inuit culture and traditions dating back to the Pre-Dorset culture (2,000 to 800 BC).

Early one cold and windy morning, while sipping a cup of hot coffee at the Northern Mart store in Iqaluit, a friendly elder Inuit told me (but not exactly in these words) that for centuries the peoples of the North traded their traditional crafts with whalers and foreign visitors to the arctic, in exchange for basic tools and other necessities to survive in their harsh environment.

And in addition to traditional hunting and fishing, art & craft making was a primary pastime, as it kept people busy and allowed them to express their cultural heritage.

But that changed in the late 40's, when James Houston arrived in the arctic. He recognized the potential value of Inuit art and with support of the Hudson Bay Company, put together the first exhibition of Inuit Art in Montreal in 1949, creating an immediate market in the South.

This increased demand for Inuit arts & crafts also benefited communities other than Iqaluit, as word spread to small hamlets such as Pangnirtung, Arviat, Rankin Inlet, Kimmirut, Coral Harbour, Repulse Bay, to name a few.



### Pangnirtung

In subsequent years, demand increased one hundred fold, and then, in 1991, a planned management and development program for the Arts & Crafts began in Pangnirtung with the establishment of the Uqqurmiut Centre for Arts & Crafts, a community-based, not-for-profit business partnership, owned by the Uqqurmiut Inuit Artists Association that is directed by an Inuit board, partnering with the Nunavut Development Corporation.



It now serves artists from all corners of the territory of Nunavut.

I was deeply impressed by what I saw and learned during my all too brief stay up North. Traditional material such as

I returned to Ottawa greatly enriched and confident that the Arts & Crafts of the Inuit peoples continues to thrive and gain favour with collectors and galleries from around the globe.

To begin to understand and absorb the rich and varied culture, history and traditions of the peoples on the North and to fully enjoy the fruit of their arts & crafts skills, you need to experience it in person and Canadian North will take you there.



soap stone is slowly giving way to the use of harder and longer-lasting serpentine, marble, argillite and quartzite. Tapestry weavers now also have a much wider selection of materials, fibers, dyes and modern looms to work with and printmakers have a much larger assortment of papers, parchments, oils, inks and dyes and greatly improved mechanical tools.

In Pangnirtung, it was my good fortune to meet a new generation of soap stone carvers, designers and printmakers such as Jacobie (Jaco) Ishulutak, Andrew Qappiq (he designed the Nunavut Coat of Arms and Nunavut flag), Joseak Maniapik and Jolly Aatogoyuk, who kindly took time to patiently show me around their studio, showing how their artwork was made.

Weavers and tapestry artists and designers in the Arts & Crafts Centre did likewise, introducing me to experienced artists such as Kawtysie Kakee, Olassie Akulukjuk, Anna Etuangat, Leessee Kakee and Kathy Battye, among others.

Finally, my stay was extended a few days so I could attend



the Nunavut Arts & Crafts (NACA) Summer Showcase during the annual Alianait Festival for emerging artists in Iqaluit.

Each hamlet selects a participant from their community to be present at the festival, giving them a chance to network and meet others, expand their business skills, meet potential gallery clients and sell their artwork.







Photo by Pedro Guynot de Boismenu