TORONTO DIGITAL
PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

NEWSLETTER

Our mission is to expand photographic knowledge,
creativity and skill, through education and social interaction.

DECEMBER 2024

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MESSAGE FROM CLUB PRESIDENT.

The Programming Committee has planned an inspiring online talk on the ***Art and Beauty of ICM*** by Stephanie Johnson (Dec 3). On Wednesday (Dec. 4) join host **Arjuna Somaskandan** for a Photography Outing in the Distillery District. At our Dec. 10 meeting, **Anthony Schatzky** will present the results of the Lorne Rose (Architecture) and the Kay MacGregor (Nature) Competitions. Join us for the Holiday Social at the Edithvale Centre (Tuesday, Dec 17) where we will celebrate our achievements and make plans for the New Year.

Enjoy the inspiring images in this newsletter and in our web galleries. The 2024 O3C Open Challenge Competition results were announced November 10th. Twelve club members entered images. In the Creative Vision category, **Roger Correia** received one Honourable Mention (HM) and **Gord Sawyer** received one in Animals and one in Birds. **Lidia Brandes** placed first in the Geology/Landscape category where she also received one HM. **Robert Rutkay** placed third in the Pictorial category with one HM. In addition, he also received the 2024 O3C Challenge Specialist award for his images in the Pictorial category. Very inspiring work, congratulations everyone who represented TDPC in the O3C Open Challenge Competition and to **Roger Correia** for organizing our participation.

Results for the Naomi Cohen Landscape competition were announced at the club meeting held on November 19. Congratulations to **Alan Morrow** winner of the Novice division and Runner Up **Jennifer Alexis**. HMs were given to **Susan MacLean** and **Vera Gillman**. **Marlene Duhig** won the Intermediate division and **Jeff Berger** was the Intermediate Runner Up. An HM went to **Sanlin Wang**. **Katalin (Kat) Lovasi** won the Advanced division, as well as is the Naomi Cohen Trophy. So inspiring! **Roger Correia** was the Runner Up and **Larry Durst** and **Lorne Rose** each received an HM.

In this issue, **Larry Durst** reports on a photography tour of the Sierras with **Marlene Duhig** and **Lidia Brandes**. Iconic competition winning images were the result. This will motivate members to hit the road and travel. Extending a warm welcome to **Ian Glen** and returning member **Agnes Shaw** who recently joined. Just a reminder, this volunteer-led club is **very open**, if you'd like to sit in on a Board or a Committee meeting to observe, reach out and we'll include you. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome.

Have a safe and Happy Holiday season!

— MAX WYNTER
PRESIDENT@TDPC.CA

Let's welcome club members

- IAN GLEN
- AGNES SHAW

Club Outing in the Distillery District

Wednesday, Dec. 4, 6:30 p.m.

Come out and join club members for
an evening of photography, holiday displays and lights.

No ticket is required.
Email programchair@tdpc.ca to let our host Arjuna Somaskandan know that you will be attending and he will provide the precise details on where we're meeting with a contact number.

VISIT TDPC.CA

Web Galleries (New)

- 2024 O3C Inter-club Challenge
- Naomi Cohen (Landscape) Competition

The Programming Committee has posted recordings of presentations in the Members Only area, under Speakers Presentations:

- David DuChemin
- Sally Stone
- Kevin Pigney
- Jennifer King
- Frank Smith

2024 O3C OPEN CHALLENGE RESULTS ANNOUNCED

The results of the O3C Annual Open Challenge Competition were announced at their Awards Night on November 10th 2024.

This year there were 2692 images submitted across 12 different categories by the 37 camera clubs participating in the 2024 O3C Challenge. Out of those, 830 (31%) were accepted.

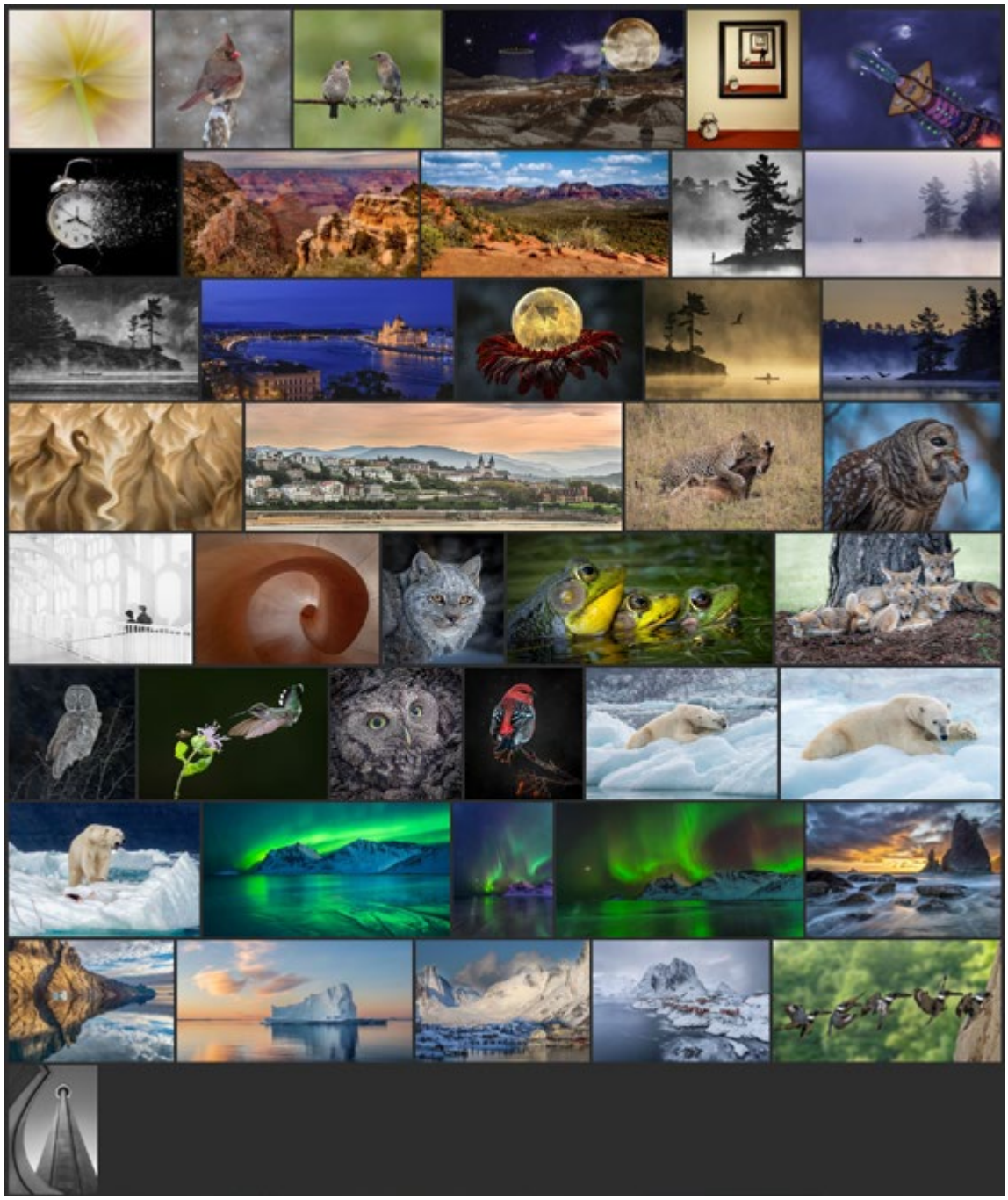
Twelve (12) TDPC members submitted 121 images into the competition:

Of those, 42 (35%) TDPC images were accepted.

And 7 TDPC images earned placements.

You can check out all the member's images that were accepted and that placed in the various categories in our 2024 O3C Open Challenge web gallery.

Congratulations to all participants!



TDPC Members who placed in the 2024 O3C Open Challenge Competition

1st Place (Landscape & Geology): Magical Night on the Beach, Lidia Brandes

Honourable Mention (Landscape & Geology): Iconic Vista, Lofoten, Lidia Brandes

Honourable Mention (Birds): Hummingbird, Gord Sawyer

Honourable Mention (Animals): Green Frogs, Gord Sawyer

Honourable Mention (Creative Vision): Intergalactic Explorers, Roger Correia

Honourable Mention (Pictorial): Winter and Summer Collide, Robert Rutkay

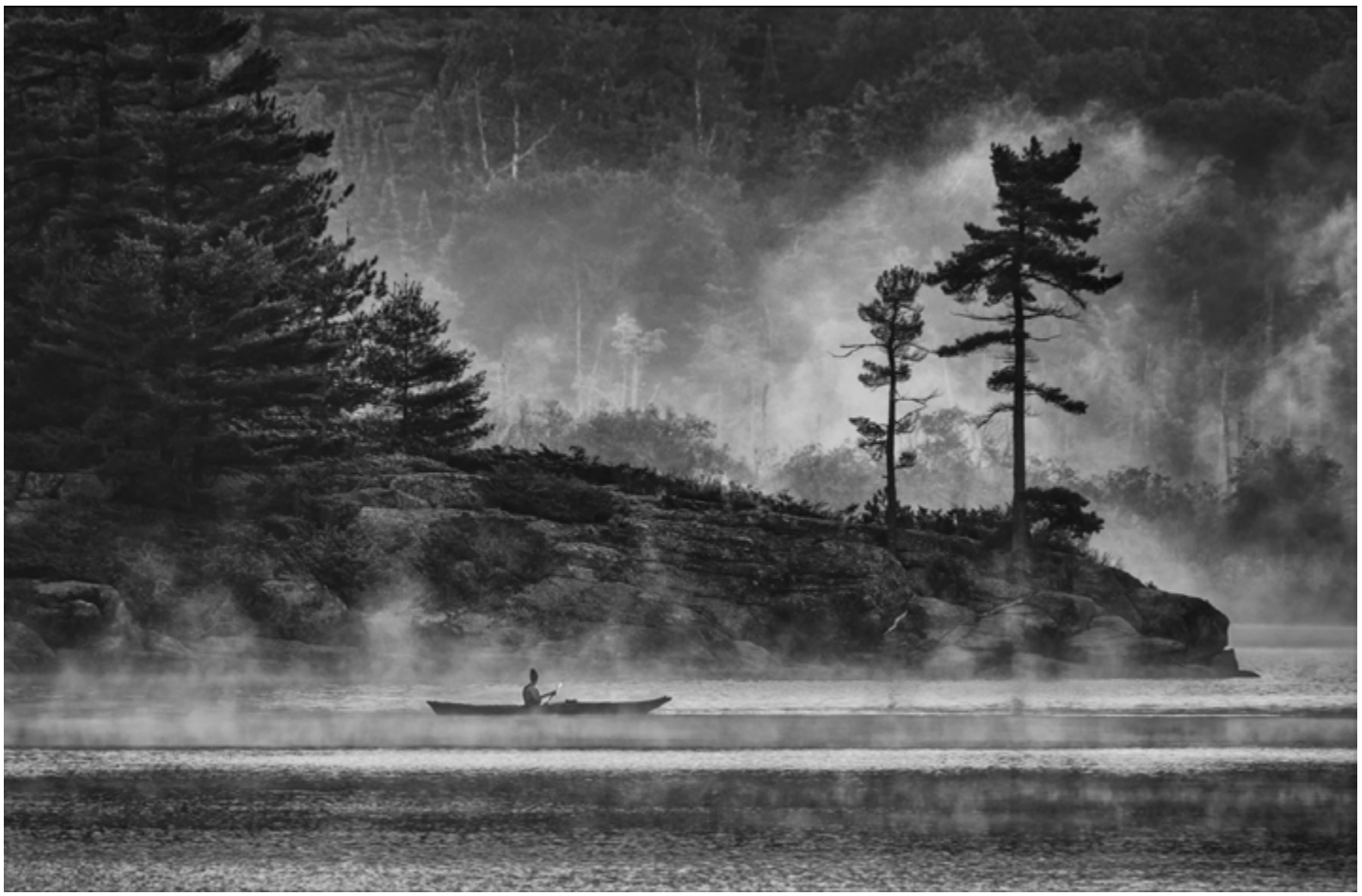
2024 O3C CHALLENGE SPECIALIST AWARD (PICTORIAL), ROBERT RUTKAY

3rd place, (Pictorial): On a Wing and a Prayer, Robert Rutkay

Gone Fishing, Robert Rutkay

2024 O3C CHALLENGE SPECIALIST AWARD (PICTORIAL), ROBERT RUTKAY

Blue Danube, Robert Rutkay



Searching for Solitude, Robert Rutkay

2024 O3C CHALLENGE SPECIALIST AWARD (PICTORIAL), ROBERT RUTKAY

Misty Morning Solitude, Robert Rutkay

Early Morning Arrivals, Robert Rutkay

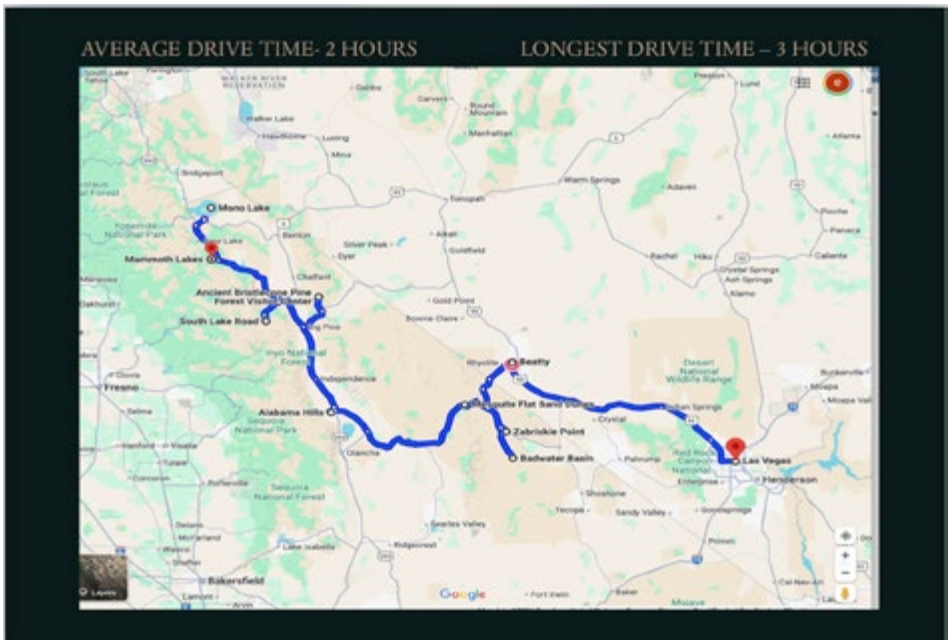
Touring the Eastern Sierras

WIDE HORIZONS PHOTO TOUR, SEPT 30 TO OCTOBER 6

By Larry Durst

On September 29, Lidia Brandes, Marlene Duhig and I headed down to Las Vegas to meet up with our photo tour group Wide Horizons. This was Marlene's first organized photo tour and for me my 4th in about 15 years. We were on this particular one, as Lidia and her friend Louise had been on several with this company and obviously they were highly recommended.

I do not want this to be a infomercial for Wide Horizons, you will see some info in this newsletter about them and a discount offer. Let's just say that there are many tours to chose from and they are all run by professionals who display awesome photos on their site and claim the client comes first, however Noel and Edwin truly delivered on that promise. It helped that we had only six clients for two leaders, split into two large SUVs for travel to the various photo locations. We were "herded like cats" using walkie talkies and iMessenger.



In the pre-trip info, Wide Horizons had warned us that this was "not a vacation." There was to be minimal hiking; however, there would be temperature extremes and we would be up before dawn and long past sunset. Then there was the travel to and from our hotels to the various locations.

For those of us coming from Toronto, the early risings were relatively easy with the a 3-hour time change; however dinner at Denny's at 10:30 p.m. was harder to adjust to for more than one reason. Yes, long days, but no complaints from anyone, as we all know that the light matters.

And therein lies one of the most important advantages of an organized tour. They get you to iconic locations most often with timing for the best light. It is very difficult to do that on your own day after day. Worth remembering as well is that the times for sunrise and sunset change dramatically with the seasons and the latitude.

Included with this write up are some photos supplied by the three of us. You will see more in competitions, if I know my fellow travellers well; and I have included our websites, if you want to explore in more detail.

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(**Editor's Note:** Marlene Duhig won the Intermediate division of the Naomi Cohen Landscape Competition with images from this tour. See page 17.)

Suffice to say, there were extremes. One evening we experienced 116 F in Death Valley and one morning 33 F near Mammoth California.

We had salt flats, sand dunes, mountains, lakes and Aspen groves. At Badwater Basin, (great name eh!), we were 282 ft below sea level; the lowest point in North America! The next night we hiked into the Bristlecone Pine reserve within the White Mountains above 10,000 ft, many of the pines there are about 4000 years old with one in excess of 5000 years, for me a spiritual and humbling experience. Oh yeah, with a Milky Way to cap it all off.

We hope you enjoy our photos. Photo tours and workshops are a wonderful immersive experience, made even better with great leaders and fun clientele. But remember, *What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas!*

MARLENE DUHIG

MARLENE DUHIG

Instagram: @mduhig13

https://onedrive.live.com/?authkey=!ACNU9IhDQufR-BI&id=5CE5DA237575CDFB!11915&cid=5CE5DA237575CDFB

MARLENE DUHIG

LIDIA BRANDES

LIDIA BRANDES

LIDIA BRANDES

Instagram: @lbrandes

https://worldphototravel.smugmug.com/2024-October-Eastern-Sierras-tour

LARRY DURST

LARRY DURST

LARRY'DURST

Instagram @larry.durst

https://www.flickr.com/photos/ldurst/albums/72177720321482713

2024–2025 NAOMI COHEN LANDSCAPE COMPETITION RESULTS

The results of the above competition were announced at the club meeting held on November 19, 2024.

This trophy was donated in 1999 by Avi Cohen, a Past President of the TDPC, in memory of his sister. This competition is for landscape photos. Awards are based on the best aggregate score of each member's three highest scoring images in the Competition.

This year, 7 Novice, 5 Intermediate and 15 Advanced division members participated in the competition.

Here are this year's winners…

The Winner of the Novice Division was Alan Morrow for: Top - left to right, *Fall at Toogood Pond, Fall in the Valley;* Bottom – The River Clyde.

Fall at Toogood Pond, Alan Morrow

Fall in the Valley, Alan Morrow

The River Clyde, Alan Morrow

Novice Runner Up was Jennifer Alexis. Honourable Mentions were given to Susan MacLean and Vera Gillman.

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The Winner of the Intermediate Division was Marlene Duhig for, Top – left to right: *Death Valley Sunrise – Zabriske Point, Alabama Hills Sunset.* Bottom: *Hot Creek, Mammoth Lakes.*

Death Valley Sunrise – Zabriske Point, Marlene Duhig

Alabama Hills Sunset, Marlene Duhig

Hot Creek, Mammoth Lakes, Marlene Duhig

Intermediate Runner Up was Jeff Berger. An Honourable Mention went to Sanlin Wang.

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The Winner of the Advanced Division and the overall trophy winner was Katalin (Kat) Lovasi, for, Top - Bottom: *Sunrise Over the Cuith Raing, Mirrored Calm Before the Rain.* Page 19: *A Gift Over the Lifting Fog and Rain.*

Sunrise Over the Cuith Raing, Katalin (Kat) Lovasi

Mirrored Calm Before the Rain, Katalin (Kat) Lovasi

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A Gift Over the Lifting Fog and Rain, Katalin (Kat) Lovasi

Advanced Division Runner Up and trophy runner-up was Roger Correia. Honourable Mentions were given to Larry Durst and Lorne Rose.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

TDPC Competition	Deadline for Submissions	Results Meeting
Architecture Competition, Lorne Rose Trophy	Closed	Tues., Dec. 10, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.
Nature Competitions, Kay McGregor Trophy	Closed	Tues., Dec. 10, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. –9:00 p.m.
Photographer's Choice (Divisional Competitions: Novice, Intermediate and Advanced) (Russell Gee, Harry Cartner & Stuart Freedman Competition Trophies)	Wed., Jan. 8, 2025, 10:00 p.m.	Tues., Jan. 21, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m.

BY JACQUI JERUZALSKI

CHOOSING A TRIPOD

When it comes to capturing stunning and sharp images, the role of a tripod in photography cannot be overstated. Whether you are a professional photographer or an enthusiastic hobbyist, choosing the right tripod can significantly enhance the quality of your shots. From providing stability for long exposure shots to enabling precise framing and composition, a tripod is an indispensable tool in a photographer's arsenal. Hopefully, these tips will help you make an informed decision that suits your photography style, budget, and specific needs.

The use of a tripod can make a difference when it comes to the quality of your photography. It provides stability, ensuring sharp and clear images, especially when a steady hand might not be enough. It can help you achieve those longer shutter speeds while keeping your ISO low. It can also anchor a scene if you wish to focus stack, use HDR or play with composites.

STABILITY AND SHARPNESS

A good tripod will eliminate the problem of shaky hands, resulting in sharper images. It's like having a dependable third leg to support your camera and provide stability, allowing you to capture crisp details without any blur.

LOW LIGHT AND LONG EXPOSURE SHOTS

In low light conditions or when taking long exposure shots, a tripod becomes essential. It lets you use slower shutter speeds without worrying about camera shake, opening up a whole new world of creative possibilities.

Types of Tripods

Tripods come in various styles and sizes, each serving different purposes. Understanding the differences can help you choose the right one for your needs.

COMPACT VS. FULL-SIZE TRIPODS

Compact tripods are great for travel and on-the-go shooting, while full-size tripods offer maximum stability and height for professional settings. Choose based on your shooting style and requirements.

TABLETOP TRIPODS FOR PORTABILITY

Tabletop tripods are small but mighty, perfect for capturing shots from unique angles or when you need a lightweight option for your photography adventures. They easily fit into your camera bag and can be used in areas where you wouldn't wish to use a full-sized tripod.

Key Features to Consider When Selecting a Tripod

When shopping for a tripod, it's essential to look beyond just the size and style. Pay attention to key features that can enhance your shooting experience and make your life easier.

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ADJUSTABLE LEG ANGLES AND HEIGHT

Having adjustable leg angles and height settings gives you versatility in positioning your camera, whether you're shooting on uneven terrain or need to adjust for different perspectives. Remember to choose enough height to shoot upwards if you wish to shoot bird photos. Also, look for minimum height to shoot macro and things close to the ground.

QUICK RELEASE PLATES FOR CONVENIENCE

Quick-release plates allow you to attach and remove your camera swiftly from the tripod, saving you time and hassle when setting up or changing equipment. Also, consider L plate options for easy camera rotation.

Tripod Materials: Aluminum vs Carbon Fibre

The material of your tripod can impact its performance and portability. Understanding the differences between aluminum and carbon fibre tripods can help you make an informed decision.

STRENGTH AND DURABILITY OF ALUMINUM TRIPODS

Aluminum tripods are known for their robust build and durability, making them a reliable choice for photographers who prioritize sturdiness over weight.

On the other hand, carbon fibre tripods are lightweight yet strong, making them ideal for photographers on the move. They also excel at dampening vibrations, ensuring sharp images in various shooting conditions.

MATCHING TRIPOD CAPACITY WITH CAMERA GEAR

When it comes to tripods, weight capacity is a big consideration. Make sure your tripod can handle the weight of your camera and accessories, so you don't end up with wobbly equipment. Think of the biggest lens you will likely ever own, and plan for that.

BALL HEADS VS. PAN-AND-TILT HEADS (GIMBAL)

Choosing between ball heads and pan-and-tilt heads is like picking between a swivel chair and a rocking chair – it all comes down to your preferred shooting style. Ball heads offer quick adjustments in all directions, while pan-and-tilt heads give you more precise control over each axis. It's all about which head makes your photography dance.

CENTER COLUMNS

It's generally recommended to try to avoid extending the center column of a tripod and to only do so if the legs are fully extended.

Remember, a good tripod is a long-term investment in your photography journey.

Whether you opt for a compact tabletop tripod or a sturdy carbon fibre model, investing in the right equipment will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the quality of your images. So, take the time to research and evaluate your options, and choose a tripod that best complements your photographic vision and style.

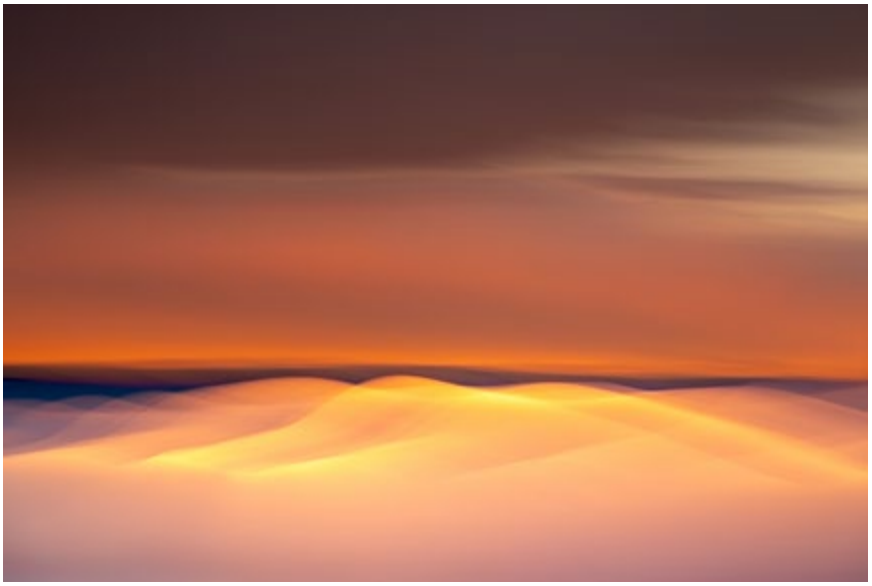
Try to purchase the best tripod you can afford, that way you will not have a closet full of tripods that you upgraded as you go on your photographic journey.

Happy shooting!

If you have a tip you'd like to share with the club, email Jacqui at sigs@tdpc.ca. You can follow Jacqui Jeruzalski on Instagram @jacqui_jazz_photography.

UPCOMING PHOTOGRAPHY SPEAKER

Online Speaker: Stephanie Johnson – The Art & Beauty of ICM Photography



December. 3, 2024, 7:30 p.m.–9:00 p.m

The art and beauty of ICM photography is that, by seeing things differently, we can connect with world around us to transform how we interact with our surroundings…to explore, experiment, and play with the camera in exciting new ways, resulting in images that are unique to each of us as individual photographers.

Bio

I am self-taught with both ICM (intentional camera movement) and landscape photography. I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree and graduate work in English Literature, and I have a strong emotional connection to the natural world with a deep passion for capturing the fluid nature of landscapes through imagery and the written word. I bring an inter-connected and intuitive approach to my photography-as-art to create not just frozen moments in time, but to visually express the essence of light, color, form, line, and texture. Because of this deep philosophy of connectedness with all things, my personal vision is one that integrates creativity in the field with ethical behavior toward the natural environment.

The Forest for the Trees

Bookings

Members of TDPC receive free access to all speaker events. This is scheduled as an online meeting and a Zoom link will be sent out a day or two in advance of the meeting. Guests are welcome, if you are not a club member,

BOOK THIS EVENT.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

INSTAGRAM: @tdpc_pics

FACEBOOK PAGE:

Toronto Digital Photography Club

https://www.facebook.com/mytdpc

FACEBOOK GROUP:

TDPC Image & Information Sharing

https://www.facebook.com/groups/264695007282756

NATURE ETHICS CORNER

Curated by ***Theresa Moore***

Used with Permission:
Toronto Field Naturalists

GIVE A HOOT! HOW TO PROTECT SNOWY OWLS

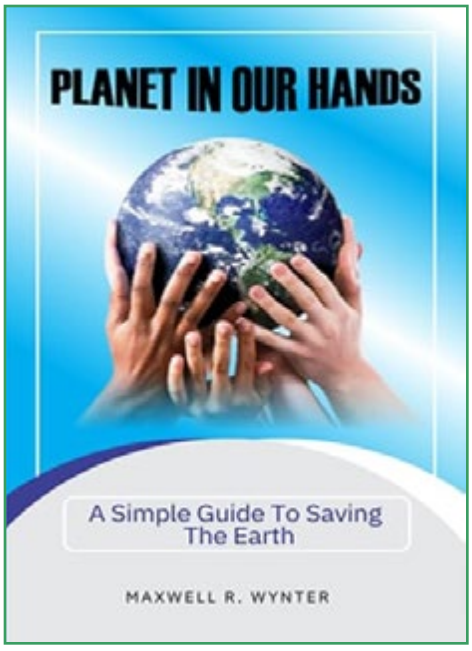
1. Keep your distance to reduce stress and allow natural hunting.
2. Don't attract owls with food or other means.
   - Owls who associate people with food are at risk for vehicle strikes.
   - Lab-raised mice can harbor dangerous salmonella bacteria

EXCITING NEWS FROM OUR CLUB PRESIDENT!

Our club president, Max Wynter, has authored an inspiring new book, **Planet in Our Hands: A Simple Guide to Saving the Earth.** This thought-provoking guide explores the challenges facing our planet—like climate change and misinformation—and offers practical, actionable steps we can all take to make a difference. Whether you're passionate about sustainability or simply curious about what you can do to help, this book is a must-read!

Planet in Our Hands is now available for purchase on Amazon.ca in eBook, paperback, and hardcover formats. Let's support our president's important work and help spread the message of hope and action!

https://a.co/d/0r5SHQ3



HOLIDAY SOCIAL NIGHT

DECEMBER 17, 2024
7:00 PM TO 8:30 PM

EDITHVALE COMMUNITY CENTRE - BANQUET HALL
131 FINCH AVE., WEST, TORONTO M2N 2H8

As we enter the holiday season our Holiday Social provides a great opportunity to see everyone, enjoy some music, some finger food, celebrate our photography accomplishments and chat about our plans for the New Year.

Pizza and soft drinks will be provided.

We encourage you to:
Bring a potluck finger food appetizer or dessert to share.
Bring a guest (spouse or friend).

INTERESTING EVENTS

ROM EXHIBIT

Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2024
December 21, 2024 - May 4, 2025
Royal Ontario Museum

Annually, photographers spanning ages and abilities submit tens of thousands of images to the international Wildlife Photographer of the Year contest. This winter, ROM is thrilled to once again host the renowned exhibition. Organized by London's prestigious Natural History Museum, UK, this fan-favourite showcases the very best in nature photography from around the globe.

Credit: ROM Website

PETAPIXEL.COM

The Final 25 Images of the Wildlife Photograper of the Year
https://petapixel.com/2024/11/26/the-final-25-images-of-the-wildlife-photographer-of-the-year-peoples-choice-awards-2024-natural-history-museum/

WIDE HORIZON PHOTO TOURS: SPECIAL OFFER TO TDPC MEMBERS

EXCLUSIVE
TOUR PACKAGE!

WIDE HORIZON PHOTO TOURS offers premium photography tours and workshops led by two experienced photographers boasting a combined 40 years of expertise.

We are offering a USD 300.00 off on all our 2025 tours exclusive to TORONTO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB members!

CHECK OUT OUR PHOTOGRAPHY TOURS HERE:

https://widehorizonphototours.com/

TORONTO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB.

ABOUT US

The Toronto Digital Photography Club (formerly the Toronto Guild for Photographic Art) was originally established in 1947 as the Toronto Guild for Colour Photography. It is one of Canada's premier camera clubs with a rich history and one of the oldest camera clubs in Toronto.

The club is home to many talented and successful photographers, both amateur and professional. Regardless of your skill level, membership in our club offers many opportunities to improve your photography, meet people with a common interest in various genres of photography, share ideas and participate in fun and friendly photography outings.

Guests are always welcome. So if you are thinking of joining the club, check out the calendar on our website for an upcoming event of interest and contact us.

We would be happy to have you join us. You will be glad you did.

WEBSITE: tdpc.ca

FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/mytdpc

INSTAGRAM: @tdpc_pics

A proud member of the Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA) and the Ontario Council of Camera Clubs (OCCC).

JOIN US.

If you know someone who may be interested in joining a camera club, please pass on this newsletter and encourage them to join us.

TDPC offers the following membership options:

- New Individual Membership ($95.00/year)
- New Joint Membership with spouse, son/daughter, etc. ($170.00/year)
- New Associate Membership (must live outside the GTA and subject to Board approval annually). Join as an Individual member, then apply to president@tdpc.ca for Associate status, and if approved, a refund of $25.00 will be issued.

Note: New members joining in the second half of the year, between January 1st and March 31st pay a discounted rate of only $50.00.

To join our club, click here. You may use PayPal or a Credit Card (Visa/Mastercard) to process your payment and complete your registration online to gain immediate access to the website and all the resources we have available.

MEMBER TESTIMONIAL

TDPC SAVED MY PHOTOGRAPHY

TDPC did not save my life but it did save my photographic hobby.

I have been around cameras most of my life; anyone remember Cibachrome? Yes I am an Advanced Senior Citizen :-) But like many, my interests changed over the years and I largely became a snapshot shooter.

Then I met Roger Correia, when we were both hike leaders with the Rouge Urban National Park. He suggested I should join TDPC and combine my interests.

Unlike many members, I was immediately interested in competitions, not because I am competitive but because they were a platform for trying to elevate my images to improve my craft, to compete with myself.

And then I discovered the evaluation groups, mine is social and fun but I have learned so much more from looking at others' images – so often gems, sometimes hidden in the rough and, more often than not, inspiring. Yes I enjoy many of the club presentations and I have participated in a few Special Interest Groups and frankly not enough outings, but I truly love the hands on, immersive aspect of photography that for me is often solitary with a connection to the beautiful world we live in.

TDPC members have inspired me and the club has given me a reason to create and showcase images that otherwise would remain as dull raw files, hidden on a hard drive never to be seen again.

Lucky Me!

LARRY DURST — MEMBER FOR 14 YEARS