



MISSISSAUGA
Camera Club



Registered
Community Group

Fellowship Through Photography – Established 1954

SNAPSHOT

Fall 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - *Page 2*

COMPETITIONS - *Page 7*

OUTINGS - *Page 8*

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE REQUEST

Question to the Editor? janet_martin@icloud.com

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Eros Fiacconi

On September 5, 2024, I was privileged to usher in the first meeting of the new 2024-2025 Mississauga Camera Club year. But, unlike previous first meetings of the year, this one was special as it served to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Mississauga Camera Club in 1954.

The theme of this meeting was "Get to Know Your Club". And so, in the spirit of this theme, the attendees were treated to presentations highlighting this year's exceptional program of guest speakers, competitions, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), outings and so much more. This was followed by several very interesting and informative presentations by Club members culminating in an AV show that looked back on the Club's rich history extending back over seven decades.

Club historian, Audrey Cherevaty, was instrumental in ensuring that the 70th celebration achieved its objectives. Items of historical significance pertaining to the Club including past publications, photographs of past events and books featuring members' photographs were assembled and placed on display for the enjoyment of all present. And to top it off, Audrey arranged for a 70th anniversary cake that was enjoyed by all during the mingle and get re-acquainted portion of the evening.



Photo Credit:
Cecil Lindsay

A big thank you goes out to all our volunteers for their various contributions in making that evening memorable - from the welcoming group at the front to those tending to the coffee, cake and goodies table and our technical wizards with the setup and operation of all our visual equipment and microphones.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Continued

For those not familiar with the history of the Club, here's a brief summary incorporating information obtained from a piece written by former President Ronald Manning celebrating the Club's 50th anniversary:

"The Club was formed in 1954 in Lorne Park by a group of avid photographic printers and was initially known as The Lorne Park Camera Club".

In those days, photos tended to be predominantly black and white (the transition to colour was slow and at least a decade away for most amateurs). The Club would meet twice monthly on the first and third Thursdays of the month (as we do today) in various locals, mostly schools, libraries and churches. From the outset, the goal of the Club was, and remains to this day, to foster and promote "Fellowship through Photography".

By 1959, the Club had grown to the point that it was attracting members from beyond Lorne Park and so it opted to change its name to The South Peel Camera Club in recognition of the larger county of which Lorne Park was a part.

The Club membership numbers and its programming continued to grow throughout the 1960's. The Town of Mississauga was created in 1968, but it was not incorporated until 1974 through the amalgamation of several towns and villages. It was at this point that the South Peel Camera Club embraced its new identity as The Mississauga Camera Club.

The Mississauga Camera Club has undergone a remarkable transformation over its 70-year history, shaped by the evolution of photography itself and how we capture, process and share our visual stories. From the era of bulky cameras and waiting weeks for film development to the instant gratification of digital images and smartphone snaps, the transformation has been remarkable. And over the years, the Club has adapted to these changes by expanding its programming through the introduction of digital and print competitions, special interest groups, workshops, outings and guest presenters.

The relatively recent rise of artificial intelligence (specifically generative AI) in photography has the potential to change the creative process and how we perceive the art form. Some view it as a threat to photography while others see it as expanding its horizons. How we choose to respond will help set a path forward for the Club.

There is little doubt about the impact that the foregoing changes have had and will have on our Club. But perhaps the single event that has had the greatest transformative impact on the operational functioning of the Club over its 70-year history has been the unexpected arrival of Covid 19 in early 2020. And its impacts were not gradual, but immediate. For some, especially smaller or newer clubs, the coronavirus pandemic proved to be an existential threat that resulted in their permanent terminations.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Continued

That was not the case with our Club. Thanks to our group of multi-talented and knowledgeable volunteers who were quick to step up to meet the challenge, we were able to steer the Club in a direction that was perhaps a bit uncertain at first to one that provided new opportunities and an alternative approach to how we provide programming to our members.

Today, our hybrid approach (new norm) combines in-person meetings with Zoom meetings. The in-person meetings provide the opportunity for members to connect and personally engage as they've done historically. And our Zoom meetings have allowed us to broaden our reach for the benefit of our members. We have been able to retain exceptional speakers from all corners of the globe and our members are now able to participate in Club activities (SIGs, bi-monthly meetings) from the comfort of home or wherever they may be. It has added a dimension to the Club experience that could not have been foreseen in 2019, let alone 1954.

Notwithstanding all that's transpired over the years, the one constant has been the invaluable benefits of being a member of our photography club. For 70 years, our Club has provided a supportive community where enthusiasts of all skill levels can come together to learn, share and grow in their craft. Seasoned photographers willingly share their knowledge and experience for the benefit of all members, particular by those who are less experienced in photographic techniques. This exchange of ideas fosters an environment of continuous learning and improvement whereby everyone can hone their skills and discover new techniques.

We are fortunate to have and to have had some exceptional photographers as members of our Club. Their images have won numerous awards (locally and internationally), been featured in the pages of magazines and exhibited in recognized galleries and shows.

Our Club also offers its members the opportunity for constructive feedback and critique of their images, if so desired, through our competitions. In an age where social media often prioritizes likes over meaningful feedback, our members can choose to benefit from comments proffered by qualified judges on images submitted in competitions. Even comments made on other members' images can help individuals see their work from different perspectives. Constructive criticism is instrumental in helping photographers refine their artistic vision and elevate their work.

Beyond the technical and creative growth, the camaraderie and friendships forged within our photography club are perhaps the most cherished benefits. Over the years, we've seen countless friendships develop as members bond over their shared love of capturing moments. These connections extend beyond photography, creating a tight-knit community where members support each other in various aspects of life.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Continued

I am looking forward to what this year will bring, not only from the broad slate of offerings we have developed, but also from those serendipitous moments that often arise when attending specific Club activities.

With that in mind, I'd like to welcome all members both new and former to our Club.

Here's to another 70 years of "Fellowship through Photography". May we continue to embrace new technologies and cherish the timeless moments we capture through our lenses. Cheers to the future of photography and the countless memories yet to be made!

Eros Fiacconi, President MCC - president@mississaugacameraclub.ca



Photo Credit:
Cecil Lindsay

Club Executive: L to R: John Colonna, Pradipta Datta, Mike Laezza, Eros Fiacconi, Gay Peppin, Jane George (absent: Henney Bryant, Sandro Del Re)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Continued



Photo Credit:
Cecil Lindsay

September 5, 2024 – First meeting of the 2024-2025 Mississauga Camera Club year

COMPETITIONS - Pradipta Datta

COMPETITIONS – Season 2024-25

Entries for Competition One are now open and submissions will close on Sunday 6th October at noon.

As announced earlier, the Club will have 3 competitions this season and up to 4 images can be submitted in each competition, for a total of 12 images, same as in previous years.

All images can be in any of the six categories: Creative, Nature, Natural Things, Pictorial, Landscape and Theme. The theme for this competition is “Pets”.

We have also changed the way we award trophies for the categories. Currently, the award is based on a single image that scores the highest in any competition. It will now be based on a portfolio of images and decided on the average score of the top three images in each category.

The Digital Competition Handbook has been updated and is available for download from the Members Portal in the Club Website.

Themes for 2024/2025

Competition 1: Pets.

Competition 2: Claude Barras Urban/Street/Cityscape: Mississauga.

This is to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the city of Mississauga.

More details will be provided later.

Outings - Larry Jewett

Sat 12 Oct. 10 AM Hilton Falls Conservation 4985 Campbellville Rd. Milton reserve on line	Sat 19 Oct. 10 AM Riverwood Conservancy Burnhamthorpe Rd West at Credit Woodlands
Sat 26 Oct. 10 AM Erindale Park 1695 Dundas St W	Sat 16 Nov. 10 AM Etobicoke Centennial Greenhouse <i>151 Elmcrest Rd</i>
Sat 23 Nov.12 Noon <i>The Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology</i> 900 Woodward Ave, Hamilton, ON L8H 7N	

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Refreshment Committee

Please help the environment and **Bring Your Own Mug** to in-person meetings.