



# Snapshots



*'Balloon Ride Over Kenya' - Marie Algieri-Goldgrub*

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### Upcoming Meetings

#### February 21

Moderator  
Nick Janushewski

#### March 6

Moderator  
Jocelyn Ubaldino

*We are a group of photographers who view and practice photography as art; our chosen means of creative expression is the printed photograph. We gather every 2 weeks for dinner at a Toronto restaurant, followed by a lively discussion, providing honest evaluation and feedback on each other's photograph(s). In this supportive environment, we see and understand how our work is perceived by others. We are always happy to welcome other photographers who would like to share their work with us.*

## The February 7th Meeting

We had 10 members out for the February 7th meeting, with 10 prints plus a remake from Steve Rees. Steve Gilligan, our moderator for the evening, kept things moving, but we still had plenty of time for conversation about each print. Steve challenged each maker to ask a question of anyone after the focused discussion ended. That led to an even more in-depth look at each of the prints. Well done, Steve!

We are enjoying this format of open, honest evaluation of each print, with the moderators contributing their thoughts and insights, challenging us in the process.

A few of the members are still away and a couple more will miss the next 2 meetings (see the 'Vacation' footnote a little further on), so we need to see a few more of you out to fill the dinner table.

### Prints Shown on February 7, 2024

**Marie Algieri-Goldgrub**

*Balloon Ride Over Kenya*

**Craig Lauder**

*Three Giraffe*

**Dass**

*Maiko*

**Leif Petersen**

*Above the Tree Line*

**Laurence Stillwell**

*A Clearing in the Woods*

**Allan Flagel**

*Field of Gold*

**Steve Rees**

*Snagged  
Remake - Over the Top*

**Doris Woudenberg**

*Dreaming*

**Nick Janushewski**

*Ghost of Lives Past*

**Steve Gilligan**

*Urban Commotion*



*'Three Giraffe' - Craig Lauder*





*'Maiko' - Dass*

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**REMINDERS**

- Send a digital copy of your image to Leif. Size: Horizontal = 1920 on the long edge; vertical = 1080 on the long edge; file name format: Your Name-Image Title-Meeting Date
- Send an email to Leif by 6:00 PM Monday to let him know if you will attend Wednesday's meeting.



*'Above the Tree Line' - Leif Petersen*



*'A Clearing in the Woods' - Laurence Sitwell*





*"Field of Gold" - Allan Flagel*

### **Field of Gold**

Photographs are great memory keepers, but a special song can also trigger thoughts of those magical moments as well. Whenever I hear the Rolling Stones playing 'Satisfaction', it instantly takes me back to the sunny summer day in 1965, driving beside the beach at Turkey Point, when I first heard it. A few years later, while driving along the beautiful Sunshine Highway in BC, I heard the iconic Mason Williams' guitar instrumental, 'Classical Gas'. Now this song lets me instantly recall that gorgeous scenic route. For years, this combination of driving, radio songs and special locations has forged many great memories for me.

The image above was a matter of pure serendipity. I was driving north of Pickering heading to play golf near Port Perry, when Sting's, 'Fields of Gold' came on the radio. When I looked out my side window and saw the golden corn fields, I instantly pulled over and ran across the road to capture this moment. It was not the golden sunset light on the fields of barley in the song, but it was a special day for me to remember.

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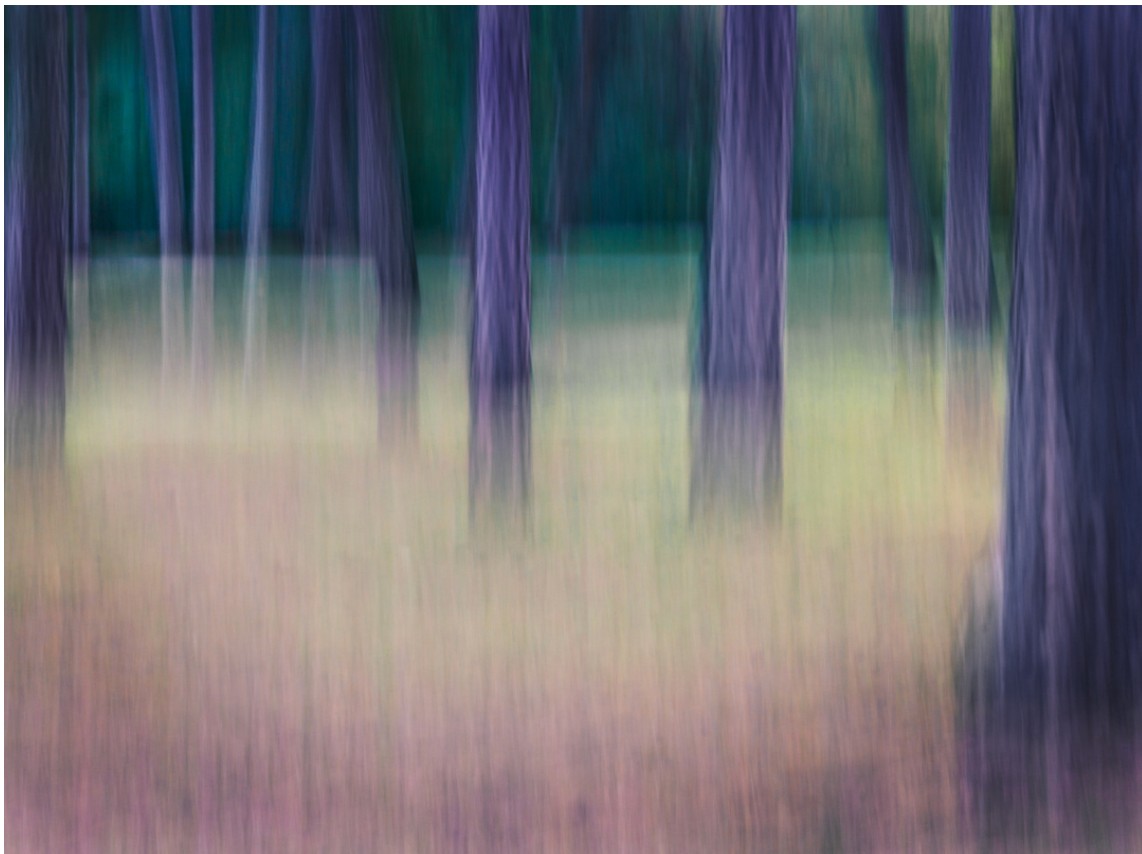
### **Vacations**

*We hope that Marvin & Mary and Mort & Harriett are enjoying their vacations in the sunny south. We're all looking forward to having them back at the meetings in April.*

*Steve Rees and Craig Lauder will be missed at the next 2 meetings, while they are vacationing in Spain and South Africa respectively. Get some good shots guys!*



*'Snagged' - Steve Rees*



*'Dreaming' - Doris Woudenberg*



## **A Grand Proposal – The TFF at 85**

It is quite remarkable that the Toronto Focal Forum, having been founded in 1939, is entering it's 85th year. In recognition of this milestone, we are embarking on a special project that aims to capture the essence of who we are. It is proposed that the best way to do that is the publication of book, with focus on the wonderful photographic explorations of the membership.

It has been many years since we took on such a project, so it is time that we assemble new work that will be a testament to the incredible legacy and collective achievements of the TFF. This book will not only serve as a nostalgic journey through the annals of our recent history but also as a testament to the creative brilliance and dedication to the photographic print exemplified by each member.

At this point, this project is just a seedling. Soon we will assemble our ideas, and your participation will be called upon. Details regarding content submission and the content selection process will be shared shortly. It is my hope that, with your enthusiastic participation, we will capture the spirit of the TFF at the juncture of this 85th anniversary.

Stephen Gilligan

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## **A Summer Outing Anyone?**

During our last meeting, I brought up the idea of planning another outing this summer. There was some interest. Specifically, I asked if anyone was interested in spending a morning at the Moore Water Gardens just outside of Port Stanley, in July. I've led a couple of workshops there, so I have some experience with the place and know the owner. It means an early morning start, arriving at the gardens by 6:00 AM. When I've done the workshops, several of the attendees and I drove to London the evening before and spent the night at a hotel at the south end of London along the 401.

The biggest attraction at the gardens is the large ponds of lotus flowers, but they also have several greenhouses with many varieties of water plants that will keep us busy for a few hours. By arriving early in the morning, there's a good chance of getting dewdrops on the plants and, with any luck, there would be a light rainfall overnight, which makes for some wonderful photography. We'd wrap up by 11:00-ish and stop for lunch on the way back to the 401 for the trip home.

There are no entry fees, so the expense is gas, dinner and a hotel overnight (if you choose to do that), and lunch (breakfast included at the hotel).

The 3rd Saturday or Sunday in July is a good time to go. At that time in the season, we'll see the lotus in early bloom, full bloom and fading...all make for great photos. There are insects - bees, dragonflies, spiders - and lots of frogs. I've seen green herons and turtles there too.

Give it some thought and let me know if you would like to join in. We can carpool and share rooms to reduce the expense or, if you prefer, drive down in the morning.

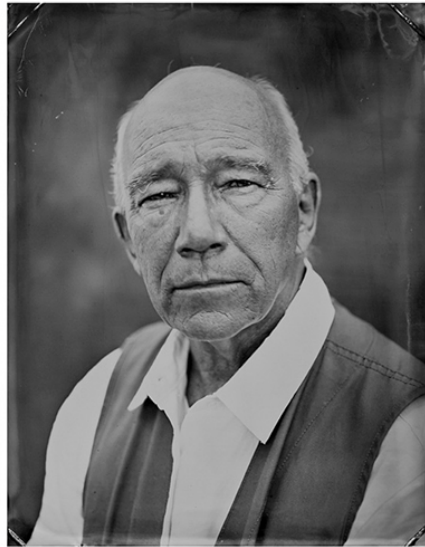
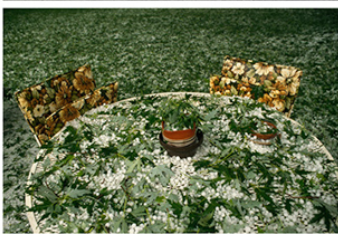
Click here to see some examples of the variety of photos I've taken in the past:

<http://www.focalforum.ca/moore-water-gardens-gallery.html>



Check This Out!

# THE PHOTO SOCIETY PRESENTS



## SAM ABELL

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

FEBRUARY 22, 2024 | 12:00PM ET | [TINYURL.COM/TPSABELL](https://tinyurl.com/tpsabell)



On May 18, 2022, we were very fortunate to have Sam Abell present 'The Destiny of One Photograph - 1965 - 2020' to the Toronto Focal Forum via Zoom. We all came away from that presentation in awe of Sam and very inspired. Apparently he has inspired many others as well, since he is being given this great honour by The Photo Society.

You can register for this free award presentation using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/tpsabell>



## News from the Ontario Council of Camera Clubs

### Photography Competition

- If you're interested in competing in this year's O3C Open Challenge, you can find all details on the Council's website: <https://o3c.ca/competitions/open-challenge/>
- If you're a member of another camera club, you can enter through that club or through the TFF.



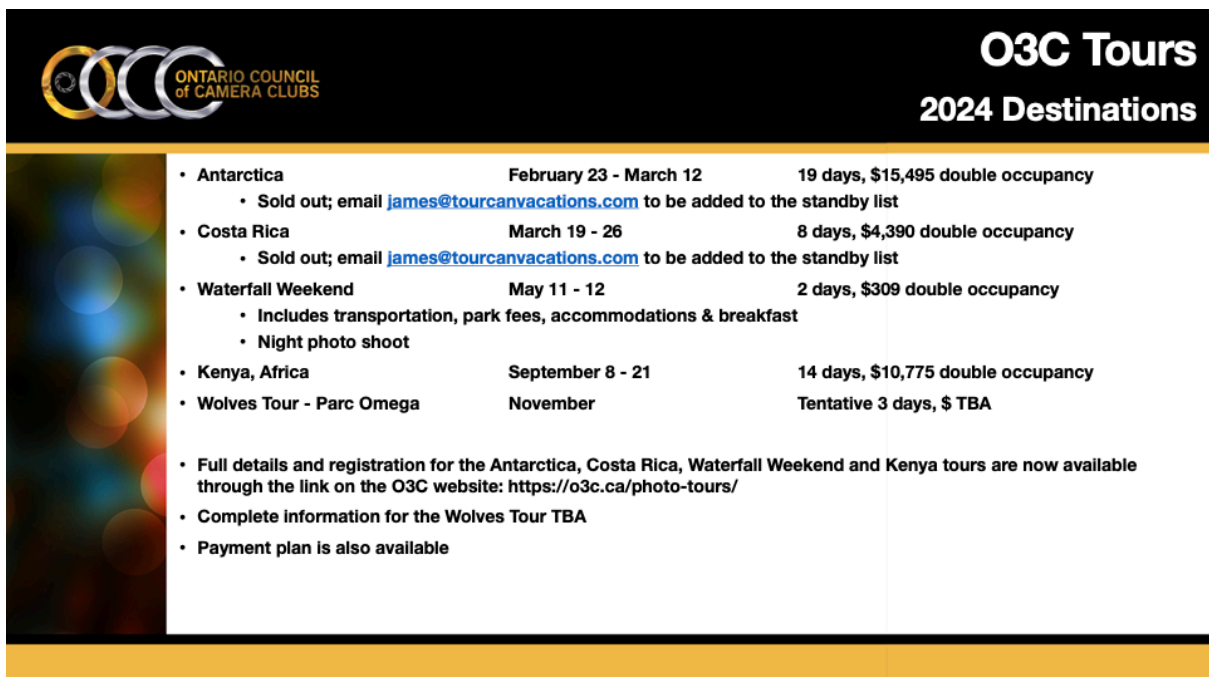
**ONTARIO COUNCIL of CAMERA CLUBS**  
**2023-24 OPEN CHALLENGE**  
 SUBMISSIONS IN BY APRIL 1, 2024

**Awards:** Photographer of the Year, 11 Category Specialists, 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place Category Winners, 11 Club Awards, Overall Freedman Award, Honorable Mentions

**CATEGORIES:** Expansive Views • People • People in Action • Architecture • Pictorial • Creative Vision Nature Birds • Nature Animals • Nature Botany • Nature Landscape/Geology • **Theme Topic: Food & Drink** See your O3C Rep for full details!

### Photography Tours


If you're considering a photo trip this year, check out the O3C photo tours offered through Photo Tour Trekkers: <https://o3c.ca/photo-tours/>



**ONTARIO COUNCIL of CAMERA CLUBS**  
**O3C Tours**  
**2024 Destinations**

• Antarctica	February 23 - March 12	19 days, \$15,495 double occupancy
• Sold out; email <a href="mailto:james@tourcanvacations.com">james@tourcanvacations.com</a> to be added to the standby list		
• Costa Rica	March 19 - 26	8 days, \$4,390 double occupancy
• Sold out; email <a href="mailto:james@tourcanvacations.com">james@tourcanvacations.com</a> to be added to the standby list		
• Waterfall Weekend	May 11 - 12	2 days, \$309 double occupancy
• Includes transportation, park fees, accommodations & breakfast		
• Night photo shoot		
• Kenya, Africa	September 8 - 21	14 days, \$10,775 double occupancy
• Wolves Tour - Parc Omega	November	Tentative 3 days, \$ TBA

- Full details and registration for the Antarctica, Costa Rica, Waterfall Weekend and Kenya tours are now available through the link on the O3C website: <https://o3c.ca/photo-tours/>
- Complete information for the Wolves Tour TBA
- Payment plan is also available



**ONTARIO COUNCIL  
of CAMERA CLUBS**


## O3C Tours

### Waterfall Weekend

- May 11 & 12
- Minimum of 30 people up to 40
- Round trip bus transportation
  - Bus trip will begin in London at 6:00 AM
  - Depart from the Hurontario Car Park at 8:00 AM
- Best Western at the Harbour - Owen Sound
- Single or double occupancy
  - Double - \$309 + HST
  - Single - \$434 + HST
- Photograph 4 waterfalls in the Owen Sound / Georgian Bay Area - 2 on Saturday & 2 on Sunday
  - Eugenia Falls - Eugenia Falls Conservation Area, Eugenia, ON on the Niagara Escarpment
  - Inglis Falls - Inglis Falls Conservation Area, Owen Sound / Sydenham River
  - Indian Falls - Indian Falls Conservation Area, Owen Sound / Indian Creek
  - Jones Falls - Potawatomi Conservation Area, Owen Sound / Potawatomi River
- Breakfast included; lunch and dinner not included
- Arrive back at the Hurontario Car Park at approx. 5:00 PM

### Travel Day '24

A full day of travel related presentations, a photo contest, prizes, breakfast and lunch.



**ONTARIO COUNCIL  
of CAMERA CLUBS**

## O3C Travel Program

### Travel Day '24

- Date: April 20, 2024
  - A full day program to introduce our 2024-24 travel program to your club members
- Location: Edithvale Community Centre, 131 Finch Ave. West, North York
- Admission: \$15 per person
- Includes
  - Continental breakfast & lunch
  - Speakers
  - Photo competition with valuable prizes
    - 1st prize - \$1,000 PTT gift certificate toward any O3C photo tour valued at over \$4,500
    - 2nd prize - \$200 PTT gift certificate toward any O3C photo tour valued at over \$2,500
    - 3rd prize - \$100 PTT gift certificate toward any O3C photo tour of any value
  - Door prizes
  - Any opportunity to socialize live with other club members!
- Will be promoted on O3C's Facebook Group, Instagram and an O3C In-Focus blast to everyone listed in OLIS
- We need you to promote this within your clubs!
- Travel Day '24 Budget...