



**"Become Better Acquainted with the Art of Photography"**

## Waterfowl Photography

by Don Mathieson

Patience is the key to capturing the kind of image shown in these examples. It may take hours before the opportunity for a good image, presents itself. I begin by observing the subject from a distance, and decide where I want to be for the closer shots. As I move in closer, the subject moves off to his "safe distance", but he will return. After all this is his favourite feeding /sunning/preening/nesting spot. I set up my blind or position myself under my camouflage blanket. As the returning subject senses this new object in his space, he's wary, but as long as there's no noise or sudden movements, he'll eventually forget that I'm there.

I should note that some of these images were captured within the confines of the wildlife sanctuary of the Wascana Marsh. Here, the subjects, although wary of human presence, will allow closer contact than their more cautious cousins in the other areas of the marsh. With patience, I've managed to get close to subjects in all areas of the marsh.

### Light:

The best images are those captured on a bright but overcast day. There is lots of light for fast shooting, but no harsh shadows. The image contrast is better as well.

### Equipment:

The debate rages on about film versus digital. My preference is the digital system. I like the convenience of seeing the images immediately, so adjustments to the settings can be made. I also like ability to choose the ISO setting. Another major factor for me is the convenience of the digital darkroom over the chemical one.

A telephoto lens is a must. The longer the better. Presently I'm using a 400mm, which is about the minimum requirement for a wildlife lens. Extenders can be added, which can multiply the focal length by a factor of 1-½ times or 2 times. The down side of the use of an extender is that there is a loss of at least one f stop, and on some systems, there is also a loss of auto-focus when attached to slower lenses.

### Shooting:

Sometimes the subject makes himself available for only a few seconds as he blasts out of his nest, or zooms straight at the camera, or shoots across the field of view. The camera's "burst" mode is useful here. Most top digital cameras have a "Burst" or continuous shooting mode. With this feature, several shots per second are recorded, for several seconds. This feature is a must for this type of wildlife photography.

Another feature included in some top cameras, and very useful for this kind of shooting, is the auto focus servo mode. With this mode set, the camera will auto focus while in burst mode, while the subject is moving toward or away from the camera.

### Stop Action:

Stopping the motion of a bird's wing, as he flies across the field of view, requires a very fast shutter speed. The Images shown above were captured in the range of 1/3000<sup>th</sup> sec to 1/4000<sup>th</sup> sec.

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## THE EDITORS ~~WORD~~ LAST

By the time you read this, the photo club will be about to have the fifth meeting at our new meeting place at SIAST. It would be safe to say, had we not moved, we would have been into serious standing room for some members. We now have the significantly more floor space in our new venue, but the tables take up a lot of room which is a concern, at least for me. It is difficult to move around the room, so meeting new members and renewing acquaintances with former members is somewhat difficult. So now what? Does the executive bite the bullet and come earlier still and move tables and stay late to move the tables back as we found them; or can we get a new volunteer group for each meeting to assist?

For those of you that are new members, it must be somewhat difficult to get to know members in the club. I urge you to try to meet a member or members next to you at each meeting. Please do make an effort to contact any executive if you have questions, either in person, by e-mail or telephone with photography related questions. If we don't have the immediate answer, we will get you an answer. As Editor, I also welcome letters to the Editor.

Each month the club organizes a couple of field trips, one on a Saturday a.m. and another on a Sunday p.m. This is a good way to meet and gain or share experiences from fellow members. Later, in the spring and early summer there will be several one and two day field trips.

This f/16 issue features two member profiles, Linda Boston, First Member at Large and Lindsey Krautz, f/16 Assistant Editor, both recent members in the Regina Photo Club. Also featured is an article on water fowl photography by a long time member, Don Mathieson.

The second In-Club competition will be on January 15th with all photography entries in Black and White. For those that can not process your own black and white film, here is one solution. Kodak has multi-purpose 400-speed black-and-white chromogenic film designed for processing in color negative chemistry (C41) and printing on color negative paper. The film can be processed in any lab that processes color negative film. The film is Kodak Professional BW 400CN Film which is available in 35mm in 24 and 36 exposures as well as medium format 120 roll film.

## COLD WEATHER PHOTOGRAPHY

Cold weather photography raises a whole new challenge to successful photography. Cameras used in subzero temperatures can be winterized by the manufactures, but few people go to the trouble. The most common cold temperature problem is battery failure. All modern cameras require batteries to operate. During cold weather, it may be necessary to carry a spare battery in a warm pocket and change batteries occasionally.

Be careful to not breathe on the lens or view finder as the moisture will immediately condense on the glass surface.

Carry cameras under a parka when outdoors and remove for picture taking. To avoid condensation, warm up cold equipment slowly inside a Ziploc plastic bag to minimize condensation or leave it inside your camera bag.

Lastly, dress warmly when doing photography outdoors. Cold hands and feet soon take the edge off creative photography.

(continued from page 1)

Using this fast shutter speed will require a high ISO setting of 1600, or 3200. The examples shown were recorded at 3200 ISO.

#### In the digital darkroom:

After they are downloaded, the images will need some editing. I use Adobe PhotoShop as my photo editor. I use PhotoShop's "Camera Raw" to make adjustments to exposure, saturation, contrast, and colour temperature if necessary. I'll then save the image as a psd file.

#### Noise:

Digital cameras using a high ISO setting will produce images with "digital noise". Basically, noise can be compared to the "graininess" of a high ISO film image. Noise in a digital image will appear as little specs of colour where there shouldn't be any. The goal is to reduce the noise without causing deterioration of the rest of the image. There are several user-friendly noise reduction programs available either as stand alones, or PhotoShop plugins. I use a plugin called Neat Image, but there are many others such as Grain Surgery and Noise Ninja. I apply the Neat Image filter to my psd image, and then make a final save as a tiff.

After some final tweaking in PhotoShop, the image is cropped, and ready for up/down sampling. These images are examples of this process.

*Don has been a member of the Regina Photo Club since the early 1980's. All photos were photographed with a Canon 20 D and a Canon "L" Series 100 - 400mm Image Stabilized lens.*



**"Midnight on the Marsh"**  
Canadian Association for  
Photographic Arts  
Postcard Competition  
H.M.



**"Goose and Moon"**  
Canadian Association for Photographic Arts  
Creative and Interpretive Nature Digital Slide  
H.M.



## 2007/08 RPC Program Calendar

Regular meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the first & third Tuesdays from September, 2007 until June, 2008, at SIAST Wascana Campus, Room 155.

**November 6, 2007**

1st In-Club competition results

**November 17, 2007 \***

Introduction to Adobe Photoshop/Elements - Level II by Brent Parkin

**November 20, 2007**

Presentation: Saskatchewan Ghost Towns by Mike Stobbs

**December 4, 2007**

Presentation: Using Adobe Lightroom by Brent Parkin  
Profiling your monitor

**December 18, 2007**

Christmas social  
Show and tell. Bring a photo or multimedia presentation  
Bring a friend

\*Non-Meeting Dates. Seminars are for RPC members only. Registration is limited, costs vary. RPC also conducts field trips, special workshops and competitions throughout the year. Please read later issues of the f-16 Newsletter for further information.

## Everett Baker's Saskatchewan

Bill Weiser of the U of R has just published a book of photographs by Everett Baker. Everett was a field man for the Sask Wheat Pool and as part of his job he took over 10 thousand photographs of rural Sask between 1935 and 1955 using a Leica camera and Kodachrome film. Weiser has selected 200 of the images for this book ( Everett Baker's SASKATCHEWAN Portraits of an Era ). However, the real interest for photographers is the introduction by Weiser. He outlines why the images are of historical importance to the Province and the Appendix by Broc Silversides provides information on the Leica camera and Kodachrome film.

Weiser is currently on a book tour around the Province and the slides reside with the Sask . History & Folklore Society -1860 Lorne St - 780- 9204.

## Photography on SCN

Sunday Nov 25 - 11:30 P.M.

"Light Unleashed"

Sask Photographer

Thelma Pepper

Sunday November 25 - 10:00 P.M.

Ansel Adams

For more info - [www.scn.ca](http://www.scn.ca)

## Photo Contest

Sigma lenses is offering a photo contest "Canadian Winter Dreams". Check out their web site for details:

<http://webcast.gentec-intl.com/PhotoContest/Default.aspx>

The images must be photographed with a Sigma lens and of course you will need some of that white ground cover or just use your imagination to show Canadian Winter Dreams.

## BIRD PHOTOS WANTED

Nature Saskatchewan will be publishing a two volume, definitive record of Saskatchewan's birds, but to complete the project, we need your help. We expect to publish the first volume in the Spring of 2009, but to do that, we have to start our search now. We're looking for clear, sharp, colour photographs, either slides or digital, that show each bird found in this province.

The book will be comprehensive, with historical background, information on bird banding, distribution and accounts of each species found in the province. The project began many years ago when Manley Callin left much of his estate to Nature Saskatchewan for the eventual publication of *Birds of Saskatchewan*. Allan Smith produced the *Atlas of Saskatchewan Birds* in 1996 and has been keeping the information current. Stuart Houston has written or been involved with many of Saskatchewan's regional bird books, and has compiled many historical and banding records. Both of them are now devoting much of their free time to this project.

Gary Seib is co-ordinating the collection of illustrative material. You can reach him by e-mail at [gseib@sasktel.net](mailto:gseib@sasktel.net) or by regular mail at 2924 McCallum Avenue, Regina, Sask. S4S 0R2. Please let him know if you wish to be involved in this project, and what type of material you could supply. He will be circulating lists of the species we're looking for to all who express interest in being part of this project.

*Image submissions may be scanned slides or digital images at a lower resolution and need not be more than 1024 pixel's on the longest side. Final images selected will require a higher resolution. Photo credits will be given for selected images. At this time Gary indicated some remuneration may be provided on selected images. Images of all species are being sought - Editor*

## Member in Profile - Lindsey Kautz

Written by: Lindsey Kautz, Assistant Editor



I'm not quite sure when I began to pursue photographic interests. During my pre-teen-teen years, I remember owning a point and shoot 35mm camera. I enjoyed snapping pictures of my friends and scapbooking the prints into a peel-back album. I would gather a bunch of friends together and stage "photo shoots". I think at that point I liked being in the picture more than I actually liked being the photographer but I guess it was the start of my ever-growing interest.

At some point in my high-school career I became a yearbook photographer in my small-town school. I started taking pictures of sports and events but I really didn't enjoy the experience too much. Our equipment was pathetic and the deadlines were annoying.

It wasn't until I moved to Calgary to take Journalism at SAIT that I really began to be intrigued by the art of photography. As part of the course I was required to purchase an SLR camera and attend photography classes. I bought a 35mm Canon Rebel (because it was cheap and I was broke) and I started experimenting. I still remember most of our assignments. They were simple lessons about depth of field and shutter speeds but to me they were like revelations into the inner workings of a world I was just beginning to understand and enjoy. In addition to learning the basic functions of an SLR, I also learned how to process my own 35mm film, make enlargements and prints (in a darkroom), dry-mount my work and function effectively in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. I guess you could say I was hooked.

I feel very fortunate to have entered the photographic world during the transition between film and digital. I have experienced both methods first-hand and have a great respect for both film and digital photographers.

During my two years in Calgary I was asked by one of my good friends if I would photograph her wedding. As an amateur photographer, the thought of shooting a wedding terrified me. But I was foolish enough to accept. (The fact that the wedding was in California and they were willing to pay for my flight was a pretty good incentive.) In the years following I started to shoot weddings for several friends, two or three every summer. My camera bag started to grow with lenses and flashes and I even made the plunge into the digital world with a Canon 20D.

Last January I started a little business called Lilyfield Photography. I tell people that I'm a full-time mom and a part-time photographer. I shoot about eight weddings a year. Just enough contribute to our family income and keep my camera bag topped up!

Looking back, I really believe that God was constantly steering me towards a career that would be a financial blessing to my family without taking me away from being home with our kids. I also feel like photography has become a creative venue for me while I am away from the workforce. I love taking and editing photos. It has become an escape from my regular routine. I'm constantly reading and learning about new methods and technology and am excited to see where my photography takes me.

**Don Mathieson was a winner in several of the featured photographs in his water fowl article. In the next right column are the wins at the Saskatoon 2007 Exhibition Showcase of Arts. Far right are the wins from the Canadian Association for Photographic Arts (CAPA) competitions.**

Check out the CAPA web site:  
[www.capacanada.ca](http://www.capacanada.ca)

**Saskatoon Ex.  
Showcase of Arts**

**"Bee and Sunflower"  
Best of Show**

**"Midnight on the Marsh"  
1st in Creative  
Enhancement**

**Other Categories  
one 2nd, one 3rd and two  
H.M.'s**

**C.A.P.A.  
"Goose and Moon"  
Creative and Interpretive Nature  
Digital Slide**

**H.M.  
"Bee and Sunflower"  
Nature Digital Slide  
H.M.**

**"Midnight on the Marsh"  
Postcard competition  
H.M.**

**"Wood Duck Frenzy"  
Postcard Competition  
H.M.**

## Member in Profile - Linda Boston

Written by: Linda Boston  
 Edited by: Assistant Editor

I was born and raised on a farm just south of Avonlea, SK. As far back as I can remember, I was always taking pictures with any camera I could get my hands on, including a Cube-Flash, Disk, and a 35mm SLR Pentax A3000 with a manual focus lens. When my husband & I moved to Kelowna, BC and I was finally able to buy my own camera. Not knowing anything about cameras but wanting enough versatility to take photos of people, wildlife, landscapes and sports we bought an SLR Canon EOS 3000 Film Camera.

In July of 2001 I opened up my Licensed Home Daycare so I could stay at home with my 1-year old son. I thought it would be nice to take photos of the children at the daycare and frame them for their parents. It was a huge success and became an annual tradition. Every Christmas when I took the photos, I would get the urge to try something more elaborate. In 2006, my husband encouraged me to take camera classes to learn how to better use my camera.

That spring I started taking night classes at the Neil Balkwell Center: Camera 1 & 2 (camera functions & how to use them). After completing that, I attended Photography 3 & 4 (Creative Photography) at SIAST. At this point I was spending way too much money on developing my weekly assignments so I purchased a little Point & Shoot Sony Cybershot Digital Camera. It was a great little camera but I found it was not good for action shots. That year, my husband offered to buy me a Digital SLR for my birthday gift. After a lot of research comparing the Canon 30D to a Nikon D70, I chose the Canon 30D due to the fact that I already had 3 Canon Lenses. After making this purchase I attended Photography 5 & 6 (studio lighting) at SIAST. The most amazing part to that class was seeing what I could create with studio lights. This newfound knowledge added to my future plans.

Back when I took my first class at the Neil Balkwell Center, I saw an entry form for the Sask Amateur Photo



Competition 2006. I talked to my instructor about putting photos into that and also joining the Regina Photo Club. Her advice was to think long and hard about proceeding with either venture because there's a lot of Professional Amateur Photographers in Saskatchewan and I may become overwhelmed and discouraged with the competition. I guess I'm not that good at following advice because I decided to enter Sask Am anyway. When I did, I met with one of the Regina Photo Club members, Marlyn Toderan and got all the info needed for joining the photo club.

Needless to say, I never won anything at Sask Am, but it gave me an opportunity to look at all the photos that were entered. It was disappointing not to win but I wasn't discouraged. I joined the Regina Photo Club right after Sask Am. Within the first month as a member, the club was having their 3rd In-Club Competition for that year and decided that I would enter. I submitted only three photos and was so surprised to learn that I won a first place ribbon in the Open Category and a third place ribbon in the Flora Category (both taken with the Sony

Cybershot).

Since then I have entered numerous In-Club Competitions and won several ribbons. Within the year I was recommended to move up from Amateur Photography to Advanced Amateur Photography. I never thought I would have the courage to do so, but with the awesome advise of my sister-in-law "don't close the first door that opens your way", I decided to take the plunge and enter the In-Club Advanced Amateur Competitions. I never thought I would win anything against the Advanced Amateurs, but have won numerous ribbons along the way. Showing me anything is possible.

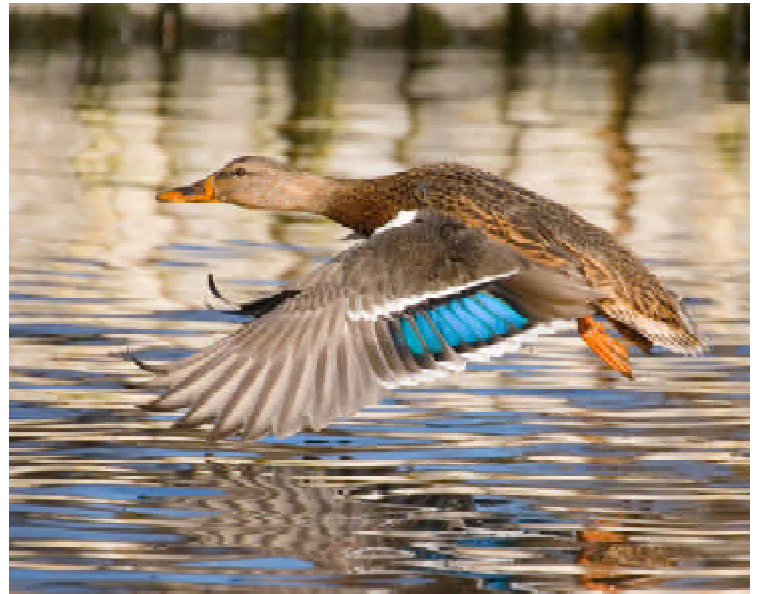
In 2007 I entered the Sask Am thinking I would surely win something. Once again, I won nothing! I was a shock, but went on to enter 12 of those same photos into the Group of Ten Photo Competition in Assiniboia. I won 6 ribbons there including their version of "Best In Show", all of which the judges completely overlooked at Sask Am. I have learned that no matter what, TRY! You do not win unless you enter. IF I can win, anyone can win!

This spring, I purchased lights and plan to have a little studio in my home. I was also elected to join the Executive Members as the 1st Member-At-Large for 2007/2008 season and am enjoying that immensely. Since January 2006 my road has continuously gone uphill and I have no regrets.

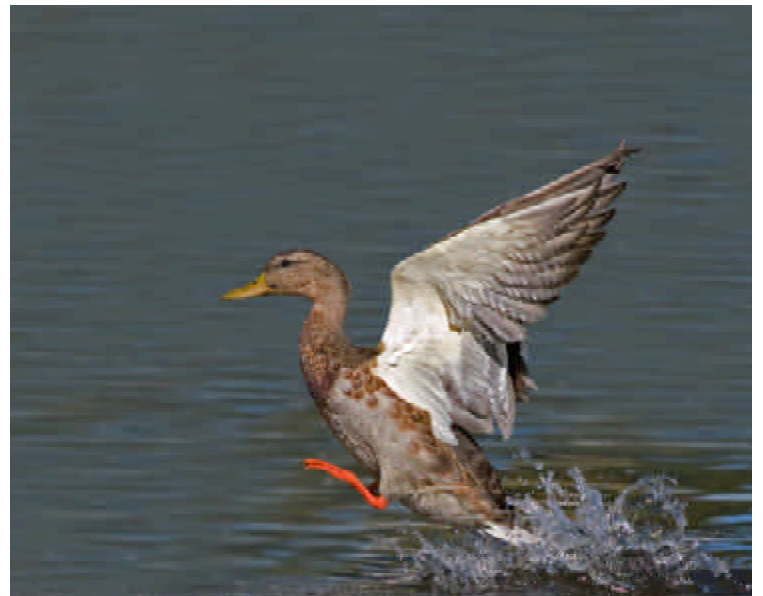
As I recall the comments made about the Professional Amateur Photographers, I have to admit that I have never felt overwhelmed nor have I regretted joining the Regina Photo Club. I have found that many of the Advanced Photographers are more than willing to share their experience and knowledge to help even the most novice photographers excel with their passion. After all, we are all in the photo club for the same reason: The love of photography.



**"Bee and Sunflower"**  
Saskatoon Exhibition - Showcase of Arts  
Best of Show  
&  
Canadian Association for Photographic Arts  
Nature Digital Slide - HM



**"Mallard Hen in Flight"**



**"Wood Duck Frenzy"**  
Canadian Association for Photographic Arts  
Postcard Competition  
H.M.



## Photo Request - The Friends of Wascana Marsh

The Friends of Wascana Marsh are updating their web site which currently is at the following:

<http://www.wascanamarshfriends.ca/>

The organization hopes to add a variety of pictures to update their site for educational purposes. They are considering a four seasons approach to highlight the marsh and surrounding areas re nature and changes. Some pictures may be used for promotional aspects such as the Wings over Wascana educational event every year.

This is a request and invitation for RPC members to forward pictures for consideration. Given that they are a non profit organization, they can not pay for the pictures. Those chosen, will be given appropriate photo credits and you will retain all rights including sales. All contacts to the site for any purchases will be referred back to you.

Please forward pictures (preference - digital) to club member, Murray Bryck at his email address at [murray.bryck@swa.ca](mailto:murray.bryck@swa.ca) or call him if you wish to forward a CD or other format.

A special thanks to those who have already provided pictures from the Wings over Wascana 2007 event

Your cooperation is most appreciated.

Murray R. Bryck  
Corporate Secretary  
Saskatchewan Watershed Authority  
Park Plaza, Suite 420 - 2365 Albert Str.  
Regina, Sask. Canada S4P 4K1  
Phone: 306 787 4337  
Fax: 306 787 0780

### Quotes

**"Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes. Art is knowing which ones to keep."**  
- Scott Adams

## For Sale

**Micro Trekker 100 LowePro  
Camera bag  
New, never used  
Retail price \$109.00, plus taxes  
Asking \$80.00**

**SlingShot 200 AW LowePro  
Camera bag  
New, never used  
Retail price \$99.00, plus taxes  
Asking \$75.00**

**TLZ Mini LowePro  
SLR Camera bag  
Used, excellent condition  
Asking \$15.00**

**Contact: Larry  
Tel: 569-0338  
E-mail: [leaston@sasktel.net](mailto:leaston@sasktel.net)**

## Transparency Battle 2008 Competition

The Regina Photo Club will be hosting the annual Saskatchewan Transparency Battle on Sunday, April 30, 2008.

The Transparency Battle slide competition was initiated by the Saskatoon Camera Club in 1970 and has continued to the present. Several years later a trophy was created by Clare A. Hume for Saskatoon to be presented annually to the winning club. The Battle is usually hosted by the Saskatoon club, but has been hosted in past years by other clubs. It is a slide competition, open to all photography clubs in Saskatchewan.

**RPC In-club Deadline: February 5, 2008**  
Members may enter up to three-35 mm transparency slides.

**Saskatchewan Club Entry Deadline:** entries must be received by the Regina Photo Club no later than March 28, 2008.

**Transparency Battle 2008:** May 4, 2008. Time and location to be announced later.

### Club Entry Guidelines:

1. Each club is entitled to enter eight slides.
2. Clubs with more than 30 paid-up members shall include only one slide from any individual member to make up the club entry.
3. Clubs with thirty or fewer members may determine how many slides an individual member may contribute to the club's entry.
4. Photographers who are members of more than one camera club may have a slide or slides included in the entry from only one of these clubs.
5. The entries maybe on any topic. No slide may have been entered in a previous Transparency Battle.
6. Every slide must be thumb spotted in the lower left corner when the slide is held in normal viewing position.
7. Every slide must have a definite title (Untitled #1 is not acceptable), the photographers name, and the name of the club printed on the slide.
8. Slides must be free of dust and smudges.
9. Judging will be by a panel of three persons appointed by the host club, but not members of the club. It is preferable they be local professional photographers, but if this is not possible, they maybe individuals known for their interest and skills in photography. Each judge will award every slide from 3 - 10 points for a possible total score of 30 points.
10. Awards:
  - (1) The *A. Clare Hume Transparency Battle Trophy* will be awarded for one year to the club with the highest total score.
  - (2) The *Best of Show* plaque will be awarded to the maker of the slide with the highest score.
  - (3) First, Second and Third place slide makers will be awarded a *Certificate of Achievement*.
  - (4) *Honourable Mention* Certificates will be awarded to makers of all other slides earning scores of 22 or more points.
14. Any slide receiving Honourable Mention or higher may be scanned for use in Transparency Battle promotional materials. Credit will be given to the photographer. Entry in the Transparency Battle implies consent for such use.

**Never be afraid to do something new. Remember, amateurs built the ark, professionals built the Titanic**