

September 2017



# f-stop

an OSCC publication

What Drives Our President

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Facebook and Our Online Presence



## Passion.

In 2012 I bought a fishing kayak to photograph wildlife.

In 2014 I joined the Owen Sound Camera Club.

In 2015 I became your President.

In 2015 Maureen and I travelled through Quebec. Staying in Old Quebec City was a highlight. In 2016 we travelled to the Gaspé Peninsula .

Algonquin Park is our favourite destination. For several years now we have travelled several times a year and whether we camp or stay at the lodge, we always come away with great images. We have enjoyed our experiences so much that we included some of our camera club friends.

This past summer, Maureen and I were able to travel through our great country. We drove and camped all the way to Alberta, with brief trips into British Columbia and the State of Montana. When Maureen was planning this trip, there were times when it seemed very daunting. We were away for some thirty-two days. I took over five hundred photos and returned with great memories.

This month we have decided to skip fall colours in Algonquin and head to the Haliburton Forest and Wild Game Reserve. This is a new adventure for us and we are again taking some of our friends with us. This is a new adventure and we are not sure what to expect.

In January, the Royal Ontario Museum is showing the 53rd Wildlife Photographer of the Year exhibit. I am proposing a club trip down to view these images. I have gone the last two years and always come away impressed. If you're interested I can set that up.

I wouldn't do this if I didn't have passion. It's the passion of the world of photography. Each of my travels has always been about photographing amazing settings. The fact that I get to do it with my wife that also has this passion is wonderful. Also, I am very grateful to share these experiences with my friends.

It is the passion to serve as your President that drives me to make this a great club.

Passion is what drives us; whether it's our job, our children, our interests or our hobbies. It's this passion in us that leads us to learn, makes us successful and it's this passion that drives us. And this, of course, includes our love for photography.

As President of the Owen Sound Camera Club it is my duty to arouse that passion inside of you. For you to want to photograph, to learn skills and techniques that will allow you to bring out that passion.

This is my challenge for 2017-2018.

Randy O'Hara

OSCC President

# Getting to Know Your Executive

*Randy O'Hara - President*



## **Introduction**

I have lived in Owen Sound all my adult life. Growing up in Meaford I was first introduced to photography in high school. Since then, it has been a part of my life in some way, and in recent years, it's been more like a passion to me. I've worked in the printing industry for 38 years which drives my desire to get a good print in my photography.

## **1. Where do you live?**

Owen Sound

## **2. How long have you been involved in the Club?**

Since 2014

## **3. How long have you been an Executive Member?**

This is my third year in my role as President.

## **4. Why are you involved in the Executive?**

I just like being there. I enjoy the leadership roll and I love making a difference. I think the Club can be much more than it is. I really enjoy watching our members improve in their photography.

## **5. If you could make one improvement to the Club, what would it be?**

I would like to see more active involvement from our membership, possibly through Focus Groups.

I'm very proud of our club. I really appreciate the Executive and the Planning Committee for all that they do. When I look around the room at the New Life Centre it still feels like a group of friends getting together as opposed to a club meeting. The interaction between the members is very refreshing.

# Photographing Waterfalls

*By Randy O'Hara*

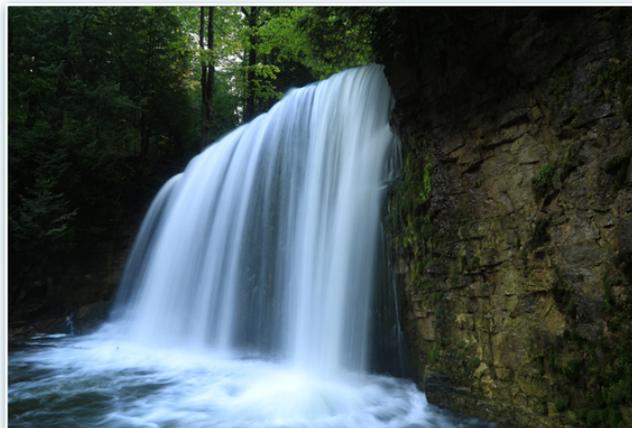
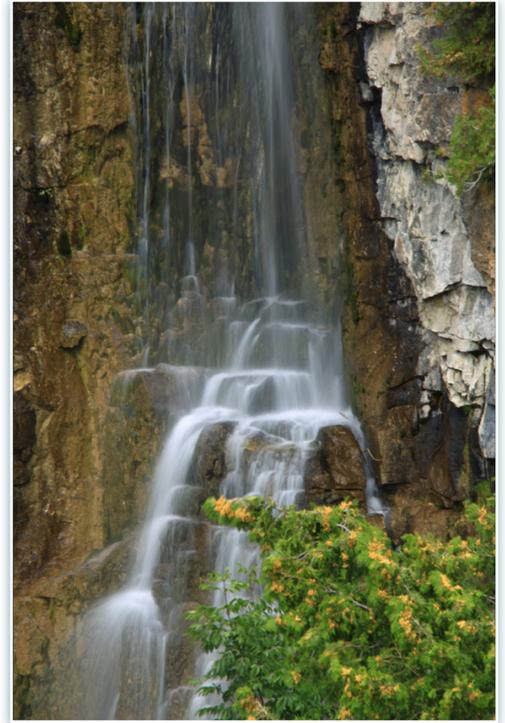
Living in Owen Sound and on the Niagara Escarpment there is no problem photographing waterfalls. Right off hand I can think of eight to ten waterfalls within a forty minute drive. We have:

- Inglis Falls
- Indian Falls
- Jones Falls
- Walters Falls
- Webwood Falls
- Weaver's Creek
- Sauble Falls
- Hogg's Falls

There are two falls that are on private land:

- Oxenden Falls (ask permission at house first)
- Keefer's Falls (I have never had issues there)

However this is not about those waterfalls. This is about what gear and technique I use. Maybe this will give you some tips, but maybe you will have a tip for me.



The first and most important piece of gear is a tripod; in order to keep the camera still on long exposures you will need a sturdy tripod. Neutral density filters will help you get that required f-stop needed on a sunny day. It will also help if your camera has Manual mode. The second part of recipe are lenses that allow for a very small aperture. It will also help if your camera has low ISO capabilities. Most cameras will go to ISO 100, and a few, like my Canon 6D, have custom settings where you can set the ISO to a value as low as 50.



Although I carry neutral density filters, I try not to use them. Instead, I wait for cloudy, overcast days and head out. I have the neutral density filters in case the sun comes out while I am there. One filter I cannot do without, however, is a polarizer. This takes the glare off the water and makes the photo more pleasing to the eye. There's graduated neutral density filters too, which are clear on one half and fade to transparent grey on the other half. The problem with the "N-grads" is that you usually need to stop down the light throughout the entire frame.

I haven't done this but if you know that it's going to be a bright and contrasting day you can choose to photograph during sunrise or sunset. Most waterfalls are either in the escarpment or crowded by trees. This will keep the falls in the shade and offer nice, even light on those long exposures. Sometimes preplanning your shoot is best. I have actually traveled to some of these waterfalls at certain times of day to scout out the light.

So how do I shoot the water falls? On manual. I'll adjust my camera to its lowest ISO setting, which in my case is 50. Yours may be ISO 100, and that's ok. Then I set my Aperture to a small opening, say from f/16 to f/22, to maximize the focus and make my shutter speed

a little longer. I own a cable shutter release to avoid camera shake but most cameras have self timers which work well too. Oh, and don't forget, if you have a DSLR where you can engage mirror lockup, use it. It's all about reducing that camera shake.

When I start shooting, I will try an exposure somewhere around 1/4 to a full second. This way a little detail is still in the soft water. This works great for a full water falls like Inglis. Sometimes the Indian River waterfall can be all but dried up. For this waterfall I would want a longer exposure. Don't be afraid to go all the way to f/22 (I have one lens that can go to f/32) and a full two to four second exposure. Here you are trying to gather as much water movement you can. I once photographed Indian Falls with very little water but when I processed the image, it looked full because I captured as much of the water going over as possible. And the bonus was I could still see the limestone behind.

I recommend heading out on overcast days, or just after it rains. The colours just pop. The vegetation is so green and the light is usually diffused and nice.

Having so many waterfalls in our area allows us to go back if we are not happy. We get to experiment and practice over and over again.

I hope this helps you to shoot waterfalls. I would love to see your photos of waterfalls and if you'd like them featured in F-Stop, please feel free to send them to [oscc.f.stop@gmail.com](mailto:oscc.f.stop@gmail.com).

OSCC member Greg McMillan posted a video on his YouTube channel a few years ago to illustrate the procedure. It's not from a waterfall, but the effect is the same.

You can see it at <http://youtu.be/7UWsTmnOjz4>.

# Our Online Presence

*By Greg McMillan*

The Owen Sound Camera Club has a flourishing online presence, and it has been that way for the past ten years. There are four main areas where we can be found on the internet: our Website, Facebook Page, Facebook Group, and our Flickr Group. Here's a brief description of each.

## The Website:

The website is the Club's portal to the world... who are not on Facebook. That is where we post things for members and non-members alike to see and read about the club, sort of an "advertising" venue if you will, but for information and other things as well, such as gallery pages, tutorials, etc. Each post added to the blog roll automatically gets posted to the Facebook "Page".

## The Facebook Page:

The Page is open for anyone on Facebook to "Like" or "Follow" the Club and the content there is meant to be somewhat "business" oriented where people following our activities and progress can interact with the club.

## The Facebook Group:

The Facebook Group is closed to members only - at least you must be a paid member to join; once someone has joined the Group, we are not going to remove them as it would be too difficult to police. The Group is intended as a forum for members to interact with each other to get/give help, set up outings, get critiques and so on.

## The Flickr Group:

The Flickr Group is open to the public to join, upon approval. Our admins do a great job of keeping it a family friendly community. This is where you can see high quality photos from our members. Facebook compresses photos quite a bit so the quality there isn't nearly as good. Flickr is a great place to get "exposure" for your photography and, like the Facebook Group, it's also a good place for commenting and critiquing.

Monthly Assignments			
<b>July</b> Summer- Canada 150/ Grain Elevators 1 submission given for September meeting	<b>August</b> Summer - Favourite photo 1 submission given for September meeting	<b>September</b> Churches	<b>October</b> One Tree
<b>November</b> Moving Water	<b>December</b> Living Creatures	<b>January</b> Optical Illusion	<b>February</b> Black & White Portraiture/Eyes, Body Features
<b>March</b> Mobile Photography	<b>April</b> Rusty	<b>May</b> Storm Clouds	<b>June</b> Motion

### Upcoming Meetings:

Planning Meeting September 26 - Library 7pm

Club Meeting October 3 - New Life Centre 6:30pm

Planning Meeting October 24 - Library 7pm

Club Meeting November 7 - New Life Centre 6:30pm

## Want to contribute to the **f-stop**?

If you have a story, a technique or just photos you want to share, please send them to

[oscc.f.stop@gmail.com](mailto:oscc.f.stop@gmail.com)

We are always looking for new content and new contributors.

### The OSCC **f-stop**

Publisher and Editor in Chief - Randy O'Hara

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Contributors - Randy O'Hara, Greg McMillan

### The OSCC Executive

President - Randy O'Hara

Vice President - Juergen Trotz

Past President - Greg McMillan

Secretary - Michelle Galbraith

Treasurers - Liz Head and Diane Jackson

Media Coordinator - Greg McMillan

Event Coordinator -

Club Meeting Facilitator -