



Vernon
Photography
Club

support - inspire - create

Monthly *Newsletter*

JANUARY 2026



Ron Long, Club President

*"The best part of beauty is that which
no picture can express."*


Francis Bacon

President's Message

There seems to be at least some consensus as to what constitutes beauty, but where does that come from? Across cultures, people tend to rate symmetrical faces as being more attractive. Evolutionary biologists theorize that maybe this symmetry is a mental shortcut to judge health and fitness (the brain is inundated with information, so shortcuts seem to be a welcome default setting for us), and that might have led to increased reproductive fitness... so this preference for symmetry may be buried in our genes somewhere. It's possible that, somewhat similarly, humans have evolved to notice breaks in symmetry as well, which might represent danger, or opportunity. Others speculate that symmetry matters more than just biology...symmetry, balance and proportion help in crafting tools, and building stable structures, for example.

But what about the rusting hulk, the dilapidated barn, the derelict homestead, the abandoned church. Are they not also beautiful? Absolutely! Just don't ask me to explain why! I think maybe it has something to do with the temporary arrest of the inexorable march of time, and our appreciation of what once was. Do go out and photograph them, though, and search for other things beautiful in 2026!

Happy shooting!
Ron Long, President VPC



CLUB DATES TO NOTE



The Club Calendar on our Website
is your **One-Stop-Shop**
for full details on all events!

Jan 3rd

Deadline to Submit Images for
Club Evaluation

1. Fine Art- See CAPA Themes
2. Unique Lighting
3. Elevation
4. Open

Image(s) to be submitted to
vernoncamera@yahoo.com using
club naming & sizing guidelines.

Jan 14th

The January Outing will feature a
return visit to the KF Centre Kelowna
Airport. Following the visit to the KF
Centre, we will stop for lunch and
then visit August Luxury Motorcars,
located across the highway from the
airport.

Jan 8th

Join us by Zoom as we hear the
evaluators' review of the member
images submitted in these
categories: Fine Art- See CAPA
Themes, Unique Lighting, Elevation,
Open

Jan 22nd

Sit back in the comfort of your home
on this winter's night and enjoy A
Zoom Presentation by Travis Layton
(aka Trav_In_The_Bush) telling us
about his journey as a bird
photographer, storyteller, Nikon
Ambassador and full-time workshop
leader passionate about helping
people capture birds in wild places.

Jan 11th

Deadline to Submit CAPA Images to
Committee

Fine Art- See CAPA Themes
Image(s) to be submitted to
vpccapa@gmail.com using club
naming & sizing guidelines.

vernonphotographyclub.com/calendar

Vernon Performing Arts Club Display



Why Print? Why Now?

An Invitation to Exhibit at the Vernon Performing Arts Centre

Every January, the Vernon Performing Arts Centre becomes more than a venue for performances—it becomes a gathering place for the community. From January 5th to February 28th, the Centre will host its annual photography exhibition, offering our club a valuable opportunity to share our work with a wide and engaged audience. This is an ideal moment to step beyond the screen and put your photographs on the wall.

A Captive, Appreciative Audience

January and February are some of the busiest months at the Centre. Patrons arrive early for concerts, plays, and events, linger during intermissions, and spend time in the public spaces where exhibitions are displayed. That means your images won't be scrolled past—they'll be seen, discussed, and remembered by hundreds of visitors over the two-month run.

Prints Change the Conversation

A printed photograph carries a presence that digital images simply can't replicate. Texture, scale, tonal depth, and fine detail all come alive on paper. Viewers slow down. They look longer. They connect more deeply. For photographers, seeing your work printed and professionally displayed often brings fresh insight—and renewed pride—in your craft.

A Low-Risk, High-Reward Opportunity

This exhibition is:

Local – no shipping or long-distance logistics

Time-limited – a two-month commitment

Supportive – shown alongside fellow club members

Professional – exhibited in a respected public venue

For newer photographers, it's an accessible first exhibition. For experienced members, it's a chance to showcase recent work or experiment with new printing styles, papers, and presentation.

Strengthening Our Club's Presence

When our members exhibit together, we raise the profile of the club as a whole. Visitors see the range of talent, styles, and perspectives we represent. It reinforces the idea that our club is active, creative, and engaged with the wider Vernon community.

Your Image Deserves the Wall

If you have a photograph you're proud of—even one—this exhibition is for you. Don't wait for the "perfect" image or the "right" time. Printing and exhibiting is part of the photographic journey, and this show offers the perfect setting to take that step.

Let's make this year's exhibition a strong one.

Let's fill the walls.

And let's show Vernon what our photographers can do.

SAVE THE DATE

January 14th Outing to:

KF CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE & **AUGUST LUXURY MOTORCARS**

The January Outing will feature a return visit to the KF Centre For Excellence at the Kelowna Airport. We previously ventured into the KF Centre in 2022 and thoroughly enjoyed the static airplane, simulators, and aeronautical displays. This facility will have us experiencing the history of aviation in the Okanagan Valley. There have been additions to the Centre since our last visit, and it will be fun to capture the various aspects of flight in the Okanagan. We have arranged for the Centre to give us a tour so that we will have a better understanding of what we are taking in.

Following the visit to the KF Centre, we will stop for lunch and then visit August Luxury Motorcars, located across the highway from the airport. This automobile dealership specializes in pre-owned luxury, exotic, and collector vehicles. Their vehicles range from high end luxury brands like Audi, BMW, and Mercedes to supercars and exotics like Lamborghini, Ferrari, and McLaren. We should be able to get some great captures at this stop.

Here are the details for the January outing:

Date – Wednesday January 14, 2026

Time & Location – We will meet at the parking lot on Kalamalka Lake Road beside Sun Country Cycle (16500 Kalamalka Road in Coldstream) at 9:00 am. At this time, those that wish to carpool can make the arrangements. Our tour has been arranged for 10 AM at the KF Centre for Excellence at YLW.

For the purposes of arranging for the appropriate number of tour guides, the KF Centre for Excellence needs to know the number of guests, two weeks before our visit. Such being the case, please let Bob Johnson (vpcoutings@yahoo.com) know by December 31, 2025, if you will be attending.

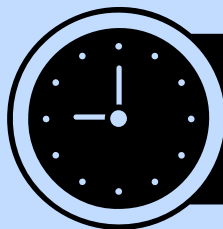
Cost – The cost for our tour and admission to the KF Centre is \$5. As the Centre requires a single payment via a credit card for the tour group, please bring along \$5 to cover your admission. There is no admission fee to August Motorcars.

What to bring – Bring along an assortment of lens if you have them. You may want a wide-angle lens to capture some of the aircraft. The KF Centre has a great viewing deck that allows us to capture aircraft landing or taking off from the airport. If you are thinking of capturing some multi-frame action shots, bring along your tripod. Don't forget the extra charged batteries!
We look forward to seeing you on the Outing!



January Topics

Club Evaluation Topics Coming up Next



DEADLINE
to submit Jan 3

Deadline to Submit Images for Club Evaluation

1. Fine Art- See CAPA Themes
2. Unique Lighting
3. Elevation
4. Open

Image(s) to be submitted to vernoncamera@yahoo.com using club naming & sizing guidelines.

As a reminder to everyone submitting pictures for evaluation nights, or for consideration to CAPA, that they be named like this 'titlespacedashspacenamespacedashspacetheme.jpg' (eg. Flowers - John Doe - Nature.jpg)

All Image submission deadlines and topics are listed in the Club Website Calendar!

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday January 22nd at 7pm



Travis Layton
aka @Trav_in_the_Bush

Sit back in the comfort of your home on this winter's night and enjoy a Zoom presentation by Travis telling us about his journey as a bird photographer, storyteller, and full-time workshop leader passionate about helping people capture birds in wild places. A Nikon Canada Ambassador since 2025, Travis has had the chance to collaborate with organizations like Cranbrook Tourism, Visit Arizona, B&H Photo, Birda App, The BC Bird Trail, and more. Across Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, and YouTube, he has built a community of over 250,000 nature lovers. Follow his pages for amazing birding tips and tricks! @trav_in_the_bush



**GUEST
SPEAKER**
*ENJOY FROM
HOME BY
ZOOM:*



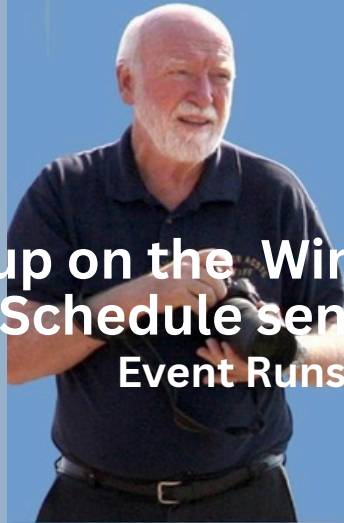
www.vernonphotographyclub.com

SAVE THE DATE

Thursday January 22nd Zoom Meeting

Join us during the second half of the January 22nd Zoom meeting to hear Member Wayne Emde explain what is involved in shooting the Vernon Winter Carnival which our Club has agreed to do this year! Check out the schedule spreadsheet in your in-box to volunteer for a shift or two. Lots of fun and a great way to give back to our community.

Sign up on the Winter Carnival Volunteer Schedule sent to you by email!
Event Runs from Feb 6-15th



Watch for our
Volunteer Photographers

At the
VERNON Winter Carnival



SAVE THE DATE

Spring Outing May 25-27th



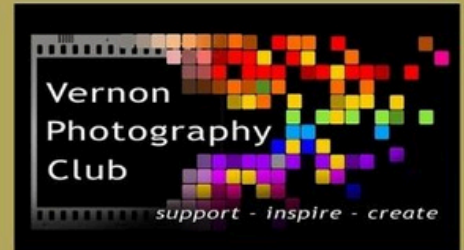
Our spring outing will be 3-day, 2-night trip to the South Okanagan. Our first stop will be a visit to the Kettle Valley Steam Railway in Summerland where we will capture images of the 1912 steam locomotive and the passenger cars. The 1 ½ hour journey will take us down to the Trout Creek Trestle with some great vistas along the way. Other stops on this outing include visits to the Area 27 Motorsport Park, the Nk'Mip Desert Cultural Centre, the Grist Mill Gardens, the SS Sicamous Paddle Wheeler and a tour of a Fish Hatchery. If the weather is cooperative, we will also be doing some night sky photography. There will be plenty of photographic opportunities on this outing and it is a great way of getting to know your fellow Club members.

Here are some details for the May outing:

Dates – Monday, May 25 to Wednesday May 27, 2026

Accommodation – We have arranged for a block of rooms at a discounted rate at the Watermark Beach Resort in Osoyoos. These are condo style one- and two-bedroom suites. The rates for the suites are:

- 1 BR City View \$199 + taxes
- 1 BR Lake Side \$249 + taxes
- 2 BR City View \$259 + taxes
- 2 BR Lake Side \$289 + taxes



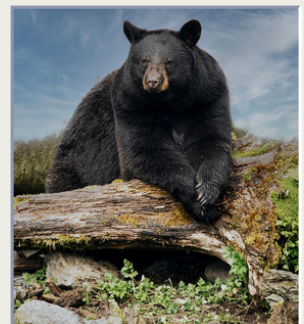
To get the group rate, reservations must be made by April 27, 2026, although to get the type of room that you prefer, we recommend that you book as soon as possible. When booking you must identify yourself as being with the Vernon Photography Club. Please contact Bob Johnson (vpcoutings@yahoo.com) for the reservation procedures. For those planning to camp, there are several public and private campgrounds in the Osoyoos area. We would recommend that you also book these as soon as possible since Osoyoos is a popular vacation spot.

- Notifications – If you are interested in this outing and/or are planning to attend, please let Bob Johnson (vpcoutings@yahoo.com) know so that you can be added to the distribution list for additional communication. Also, please let Bob know if you have booked one of the suites at the Watermark Beach Resort so that we can track the room commitments.

Please contact Bob Johnson if you have any questions about this outing. We hope that you can come along!



www.vernonphotographyclub.com/events



Tech Tip



Get Basic Composition Down

The heart of a photograph is its composition—the position of different elements in a frame. The easiest guideline to learn and remember is the Rule of Thirds. Basically, you'll want to break your frame into nine squares of roughly equal size. Try and align the subject of your photo along these lines and intersections and imagine the main image divided over these nine boxes. This gives you a more dramatic, visually interesting shot than one where your subject is located dead center. Many cameras and smartphones have a rule of thirds grid overlay that you can activate when shooting, and it's a handy tool to use when learning.

**Who do you follow
on Social Media,
Websites or Apps
that other
members
might enjoy?**

Send in your favorites to share with
other members:
vernnonphoto.news@gmail.com



This month's member suggestions:

kenhoehn.ca
hansstrand.se
@floofystudios



Club CAPA NEWS

CAPA Competition	Themes	Club Submission Dates
Fine Art	Abstract Landscape Creative Vision Still Life	January 11, 2026
Inspiration Open Colour	Man-Made Environments Seasonal Transitions Action & Motion Cultural Events Close-up	February 8, 2026
Triptych - Three Images	Community Stories Human Connections Nature Scene Abstract Transformation	March 22, 2026
Canada My Country	Atlantic Zone (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland & Labrador & Prince Edward Island Pacific Zone (British Columbia & Yukon) Prairie Zone (Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan & Northwest Territory) Ontario Zone (includes Nunavut Territory) Quebec Zone	April 5, 2026

Our club belongs to the Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA) which organizes learning opportunities and national competitions. Visit our CAPA or LINKS page on the club website for more specific CAPA information regarding:

1. CAPA Monthly Newsletters
2. Upcoming competition description and deadlines
3. Image photo Naming & Sizing
4. Link to Join CAPA
5. What is CAPA Summary
6. Historical CAPA Images with scoring

Our Club Calendar lists all of the deadlines & subjects. Email to enter images is : vpccapa@gmail.com

Current CAPA Competition

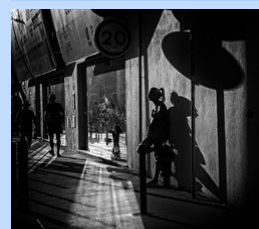
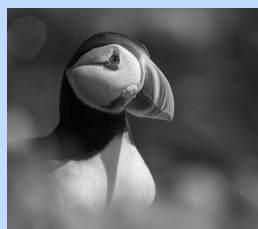
Subject: Fine Art

CAPA states, Fine Art Photography is the deliberate use of the camera or smartphone as a creative medium to express the artist's unique ideas, emotions, and messages. The initial image must be camera-captured, though it may be enhanced through a photo post processing application but without the use of generative AI digital creations or the enhancement of the image with generative features. Unlike conventional photography, fine art transcends mere documentation or representation by employing innovative techniques and artistic vision to convey deeper meaning. The challenge for the photographer is to create an image that challenges perspectives, evokes emotional responses, and communicates personal or universal truths in ways that are distinctly their own.

A few other reminders before you send in your pictures:

- CAPA requires the unmodified EXIF data (camera and image details). Some editors erase it, so check that it is there.
 - CAPA won't accept images that have received awards previously.
 - Keep your original unaltered image file in case CAPA asks for it.
 - Check that your pixel dimensions are right (check our website for help) and the size is less than 1.8Mb
- If you have any questions, email any time and we'll sort it out.

Watch for a Video coming to your inbox soon about CAPA AI changes



The results are in for the CAPA 2025 Monochrome Club Competition.

Congratulations to Dale Eurich, receiving a 2nd Merit Award in the Nostalgia category for his stunning image "Faded Memories."

Vernon Photography Club received a total score of 136 points.

Congratulations to all our VPC members who contributed to this competition.

Atlantic Icon - Lois McNiven - Dramatic - 23.5

Cotton Grass Knoydart - David Skelhon - Natural Surroundings- 21

Faded Memories - Dale Eurich - Nostalgia- 25.5

Street Corner - Allan Speevak - Candid Person - 22

The Way Out - David Drake - Natural Surroundings - 21

Young and Curious Grizzly - David Guscott - Dramatic - 23

Congratulations to Bruce Borrowman, receiving a 3rd Merit Award in the Monochrome Individual Competition in the category, Dramatic, for his handsome image "Contemplation."

Congratulations to David Guscott, receiving a 3rd Merit Award in the Monochrome Individual Competition in the category, Nostalgia, for his stunning image "Hurtling Onward."



Meet Some Fellow Members



Meet Gary Frith

Gary has lived in Vernon since he was 2 years old and has never left. When his two daughters were born, 1988 and 1990, they became his main interest including tons of video. Their families including four grandchildren combined continue to be what interests Gary the most to this day. Gary's "go to" camera is a Canon EOS R10 purchased earlier this year. He has completed the following two one day courses, "Introduction To The d-SLR" and "The Next Step d-SLR" both at the Vernon College campus. Shooting in manual mode and spot focusing are things he would like to learn more about.

Meet Lesley Barclay

Lesley lives in Coldstream and has been taking pictures since getting her first DSLR in her teens. She loves travel photography, capturing 'moments', and wildlife. Lesley hopes to improve on her photography techniques, editing and organizing/storage of the final products. She currently shoots with a Canon T7i, usually with an 18-400 lens.



Meet Ian Bull

Ian was born in Australia and grew up in Sydney. He moved to Canada in his late twenties and has lived in Vernon ever since. Ian has been involved in photography since his early teens, working as a darkroom and studio assistant in a commercial studio in Sydney when he was eighteen. Upon moving to Vernon Ian operated a studio for 23 years covering almost everything: weddings, many different types of portraits, sports leagues, reunions, and occasionally commercial work. Ian enjoys all types of photography, but particularly enjoys landscape and travel work. Ian would love to learn more about astro photography and bird photography. He loves being part of an active club with so many enthusiastic and involved members. Ian is currently learning to use a Nikon Z8.



"shoot a little less, think a little more."

Henri Cartier-Bresson