

# Message from the President

April 2019

A few years back I had received a fancy new digital camera for Christmas. After I took some photos with it I quickly realized I had no clue what I was doing. The pictures I took with my Nikon D90 were OK, but I quickly realized that it should be able to do more, and I wanted to learn how. I took a class at Camosun, Mitch Stringer's Photography – Level 1, and discovered that there was more to photography than just learning to use a camera, a lot more. That was why I became a member of the Victoria Camera Club.

I began to see photography as a form of art and became conscious of all the many genres and elements that make a good image. Going to club meetings, workshops, and field trips have become a route to self-discovery to understand what I like, what makes a good image and how much more I can learn.

I spent the first few years mostly as an observer and then in 2016 I became a field trip coordinator. This allowed me to meet more fellow photographers and learn more about the city I call home. I then started to submit my photographs to competitions which as a novice was a giant leap for me and one that I do not regret. It helped me to take the quality of my images to a whole new level.

The encouragement of my fellow photographers inspired me to try new things, to push the boundaries of my capabilities and to grow in my understanding of photography. I am proud to now be on the executive as your President and lead a group of incredible volunteers who are devoted to bringing its members an opportunity to flourish in their photographic endeavours.

One of the ways for us as a Club to celebrate our accomplishments is during our annual Print Show. This year our Print Show is taking place at the Victoria Art Council Gallery located at 1800 Store Street. We will have our opening on April 20th from 2:00 pm to 4:00pm and will run Tuesdays through Sundays until May 5th. Come out and see what your fellow photographers have been up to.

As I write this message, our epic snowfall has almost melted (at least where I am on the Peninsula). It reminds me of how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful place and what opportunities we have to get out and photograph the beautiful surroundings of our city and up island. So, get out there and explore!

Teri VanWell, President