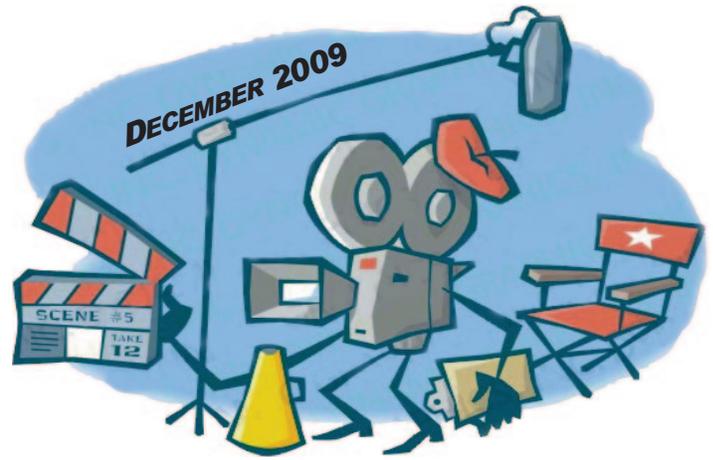




# REEL NEWS

For more info write to Hamilton Video/Film Makers  
3 Wardrobe Avenue South, Stoney Creek, ON L8G 1R9  
Tel: 905-662-4406 • Check our Website at hvfm.ca



## FIRST COMES DECEMBER

I am going to reverse the normal layout of the HV/FM newsletter this month in order to appeal to those who do not read all of it or have very short attention spans. The important news will be first followed by the report of the last meeting.

### *It's Time For A Road Trip.....*

The London Videography Club would like to invite the HV/FM members to our December 9th, 2009 meeting at the Junior Achievement Centre, 15 Wharncliffe Road North, London, Ontario.

We are inviting you to our Annual Wine & Cheese Christmas Party and also for the reason to see our New Video & Photo Club Digital Media Concept. We will be having both a Video and a Photo meeting with presenters.....

- ① **Paul Herbert** - Photo presentation on Turkey
- ② **Kim Brown** - Photo and Video presentation on Greece
- ③ **Paul Armstrong** - Photo and Video presentation on Africa
- ④ **Allan and Barbara Parr** - Video Members presentation
- ⑤ **London Videography Club** - Photo and Video presentation on a Field trip to St. Marys.

The evening is loaded with Photo & Video Presentation which we hope you will enjoy. And, of course, all of this and your decision to visit us, we realize, will be weather dependent.

Regardless, we hope to see you and would like to be advised via return email of the approximate numbers coming in order to provide enough wine and cheese.

**Kim Brown** – *President London Videography Club*

So folks, if you are interested in making the trip (aw come on, this is Canada, winter weather is not a problem) then send an email to Dan Copeland or Jon Soyka letting us know that you will be heading West to see how London does it. If you need a ride, let us know.

### *Rev up for the Annual Contest.....*

It is only six months to the deadline for entries in the 2010 HV/FM Annual contest. That is about 180 days in round figures. 4,320 hours give or take a few. 259,200 minutes in which to think about, write, shoot, edit, score and burn a DVD to enter in the contest. It may sound like a lot but believe me, it is not a long time. SOOOOO... start now on your definitive work for the new year, the production that will have everyone talking for months if not years to come. **DO NOT LEAVE IT UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT.** Should I say that again. **DO NOT LEAVE IT UNTIL THE LAST MOMENT.** The due date for the entries for the annual contest is Thursday, May 6th, 2010.

The rules and the entry form for the 2010 contest will be on the website by the end of the year. Print them out and stick the sheet in a very conspicuous place where it will be a constant reminder to start making your video, or better still, start doing it now.

The banquet night when the awards will be handed out and the winning productions shown will be Thursday June 3rd, 2010.

***Meetings held the first Thursday every month at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall – 12 King St. E., Stoney Creek Videomaking Basics – 7:00 p.m., Regular Meeting – 7:30 p.m.***

### **And the new Master of Ceremonies is.....**

As reported last month, December will be the final time that Jon Soyka will stand at the front of the Legion and lead the monthly HV/FM meeting. So the question is.... who will do it starting in January? Are you the one? Can you get up and interest 35+ demanding members month after month? Can you offer the club some new insight or way of doing things? Are you alive? Are you listening? Do you care? Hello... is anybody there? Call Dan Copeland at 905-445-3159 or email him at dan@cdvideo.ca and tell him that you are interested in being in the running for the new Master of Ceremonies for the club. Do it today... there may not be a tomorrow.

### **From those who HAVE to those who DON'T.....**

The December meeting is the time when those of us who are relatively well off contribute to help those that are not in such a fortunate position. Again we ask, if you are so inclined, to bring non-perishable foodstuffs to the Legion on December 3rd, 2009. Those items will then be delivered to the St. Mathews House Food Bank on Barton St. to be dispersed to those in need. This is a quote from last year..... "As your author carried the items into the building he had to pass through the throng of waiting food bank recipients in the foyer. Upon leaving he heard many people quietly say "Thank You". Let's do it even better this year.

### **Going, Going, Gone.....**

Harold Cosgrove got rid of an old lighting kit at the November meeting and one of our members is pleased to now own it. Do you have stuff that is just gathering dust and you no longer want to constantly clean it off. Bring the items to the next meeting and maybe someone else will make your life easier. The only rule to remember is - if you bring it and it does not sell, you take it home.

### **On the lookout.....**

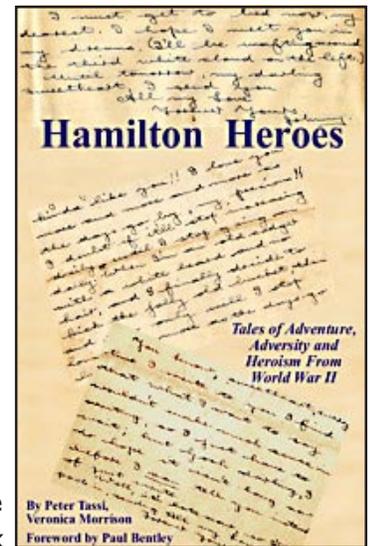
Johnathan Garfield is still looking for helpers for the film he is going to work on. Get involved. Volunteer. You might actually have some fun and even learn something. Talk to JR at the December meeting and see how you can get included in this project.

### **Money, Money, Money...**

Make Mary Cosgrove happy. Bring in your membership money at the December meeting and watch Mary's face light up. \$35 single or \$45 family are the two rates we charge. Not bad at all for a full year (12 months) of non stop excitement and learning. No excuses this month - bring the loot.

### **Hamilton Heroes...**

...is a new book written by Peter Tassi and HV/FM club member Paul Bentley along with Veronica Morrison, consisting of the stories of 12 World War II veterans from the Hamilton area. Using much of their own words, the book presents stories in an interesting, inspiring and compelling fashion. Starting from their childhood growing up in the Great Depression, the book



follows them through their teen years and onto their time serving in the Army, Navy or Air Force, and ending with their lives after the war. They share with us what it was like to grow up in the twenties and the harsh realities of the 'dirty thirties'. Even more compelling are the personal accounts of their training, and the realities in fighting the Axis powers on air, land and sea.

Although they share intimate details about the horrors they experienced in battle, they also tell us of humorous experiences and the great friendships they formed. Conveying the sense of tragedy and heroism, the book gives numerous first-hand accounts of the slaughter at Dieppe, the fighting in the mountains of Italy, the bombing of Germany, and the dropping of depth charges on enemy submarines. These brave men also share some of their most intimate thoughts from their experiences as POW's. They witnessed death and carnage, and although they performed their duties, they were greatly troubled at the sacrifice of friend and foe. It was often difficult for them to adjust to their new lives upon returning home, but most of them felt they had grown in their humanity upon return.

**Copies of this book will be available from Paul Bentley at the December meeting. Price is \$12.00.**

### **In the NEWS...**

It was announced in October of 2009 that RAI (the main Italian Broadcast Company) had conducted an experimental signal transmission using 4K resolution. RAI said it was the first broadcast that presented the full quality of 35mm film. The 4K signal is also used in "Red" cameras and is approximately four times sharper than the normal High Definition that we see. Remember that HD is only a temporary step in the continuing evolution of the recordable image.

## REMEMBERING NOVEMBER

A slightly smaller than usual crowd made their way to the legion on a clear but cool November night. In light of the fact that the meeting was just 6 days before Remembrance Day, the theme of the night was "Remembering". First up was a documentary by Adam Houston relating to his time as a POW in Taiwan. His 7 minute production showed a monument dedication and reunion. Adam has made a couple of interesting videos about his time in the far east and in this one it was heartening to see former POW's get together under happier circumstances. Second up was Dan Copeland's "Highway of Heroes". This 7½ minute song and video has been re-edited for this showing and included more photos of servicemen who have returned from Afghanistan and unfortunately had to make the Highway of Heroes trip.

Three current club members rose and received a round of applause when the MC asked those who served for our country to stand up. The three are Adam Houston, Ralph Trouten and Ken Davy. We all thank them and countless others.

Paul Bentley then presented his "My Series TV Intro" which ran for 10 minutes. Paul has been working for a couple of years on a website which allows you to stream movies, shorts and TV shows of any length for watching or uploading by others around the world. It pays Independent Film & TV producers and serious amateurs to distribute their professional movies, shows & shorts on the web. Paul is trying to make this a money making venture in which the artist gets paid a minimum of 50 percent of what the web site makes. The site is reachable at [myseriestv.com](http://myseriestv.com).

After answering numerous questions from the audience Paul gave way to Nestor & Evelyn Rosa and their production for the 2009 Multiple Sclerosis "Walk for MS". Editing about four hours of raw footage down to 10 minutes took Nestor some time, but the crowd felt it was all worthwhile. After the video Nestor hobbled, with his new cane, up to the microphone and answered numerous questions about the process. The production is shown at the Fall Fair, public events and may make it to the local cable system. Nestor has hurt his knee and will not be running any full or half marathons in the near future.

The first half of the program also included Keith Gloster giving out SCCA awards that were for recipients that had not made the trip to Ottawa in September. Check the photographs for an indication as to the number of them that were handed out. It was also announced (just like in the last and this newsletter) that items for sale or to be given away can be brought to the club. Harold got rid of his lights and next month I will dust off some

of my junk... er, fantastic, but gently used highly desirable high tech stuff for your perusal. Folks were reminded to buy their 50/50 tickets from Les Carter and feed the kitty for the coffee, pop and donuts that Carolyn Briggs and her crew had once again put out for our enjoyment. The next 25 minutes were made up of drinking, eating and lots of good stimulating and sometimes thrilling conversations. We also thank Les & Carolyn & Agnes & Jim & others who volunteer their time and skills to make this club run smoothly.



*Ben Andrews may be smiling, but he is really wondering if Harold will notice in a moment that the camera is missing.*



*Rick Doelle (left) is wondering who is looking meaner Dave Stewart or the Tiger-Cat on his sweater.*



*Alex Szatmary (right) needed an extra pair of hands (Keith Gloster obliged) to hold his SCCA trophies.*

After the break Rick Doelle amused and surprised everyone with his "The Biker Gang" production. It was only 1.30 minutes long, but it got our attention and surprised everyone with its content. Most of us know that Rick has produced motorcycle videos in the past, but this Bicycle Gang was a little different and Mr. Doelle went home later that night with a big smile on his face knowing how well we all appreciated the video. Well done Rick. I love a film with a twist.

Alex Szatmary had re-edited and re-rendered his one minute animation "The Promise". Despite shooting himself, again, Alex is expected at the next meeting.

Andrea Bakai made her production debut with a 2.09 minute thriller called "Slow Venom". Everyone figured that her relationship with the human dynamo "J.R." would produce a mysterious tome with severe lighting and deep mystical music. What we got was a close-up of a spider capturing, killing and eating a ladybug. Slowly. Now we will never know what to expect from Andrea, but at least we know that she will be producing more work in the future. The near future. And remember this you procrastinators out there, she got off her backside and made a movie.... where is yours?

Somewhere in here Harold Cosgrove got up, talked about and showed his Western Digital Media Player. More info about it can be found at [westerndigital.com](http://westerndigital.com). Harold showed it in conjunction with shots from his latest deep sea cruise in which he sat 14.98 miles back from the stage in a darkened theatre and, hand held, zoomed in with his \$29.95 High Definition camera GPS unit radio receiver and coffee maker. Not bad Harold. The idea was to show how easily some of this stuff works rather than the quality of the camera or the dancing and singing of the performers on the cruise.

The club was also shown a section from Dan Copelands DVD "Bram Stoker's Dracula". It was the version directed by Francis Ford Coppola and released in 1992. The following comments are from Jamie S. Rich on the web site DVD talk.... In-Camera - The Naïve Visual Effects of Dracula (19 mins.): Hosted by Roman Coppola, with new interviews with his father and the other father/son effects team of Christopher Warren and Gene Warren, Jr., this is an awesome little documentary showing how they achieved all the amazing special effects using only old school techniques. Anyone with even just a passing interest in doing effects work, or folks mystified by movie magic, should give this featurette a look. A film historian, the director dug into the bag of tricks left behind by the past masters, creating a surreal, psychedelic string of special effects that recall the impressive moves made by the architects of the old Universal horror films but also silent cinema pioneers. Coppola, along with expert cinematographer

Michael Ballhaus and second-unit director Roman Coppola, achieves an effectively antique look in the movie without ever really calling attention to it. The careful construction of the heady narrative allows for a seamless package where we are stunned by the effects enough to wonder how they did it, but sucked into the story enough that we can barely pause for the question.

Jim Small was very excited watching the DVD and the comments made by several people later were that they found it very interesting and enjoyable and enlightening. Maybe we will do more in the future. Have you seen something that the club may want to watch and learn from?

Our last film of the night was by returning member Ben Andrews who can usually be relied on to provide a documentary about something interesting in the Far East. His 18 minute recording of "Spring Festival in Leitzhou" was no exception. Loud, colorful, loud, fast moving, loud, informative and did I mention noisy loud was the terms that come to mind as we were taken on a trip to the spring firecracker festival in Leitzhou. The film was also a winner in the 2009 SCCA contest for the "Best Cinematography".

Ken Davy's "New Zealand Cruise" has been put over until the December meeting as we ran out of time. And as it was almost 11:00 pm it was time for the nighthawks to make their way to Crabby Joe's on Centennial Parkway for their monthly beer & nosh. Then we went home.

## DECEMBER DELIGHTS...

The December meeting will be the first & last December meeting for 2009. Please do your best to be there. Our speaker will be Me or Somebody Else. I am still trying to work out the details and schedule dates.

We will also have a load of videos (I hope) and maybe some treats and stuff and all you need to do is bring yourself and some non-perishable foodstuff for the food bank. See you on Thursday December 3rd, 2009.

*Regards,  
Jon Soyka*



*Jon Soyka looks like a deer in the headlights or he is trying to figure out how to bluff his way out of a serious club question.*



Dan Copeland (right), the HV/FM president accepts SCCA awards from Keith Gloster that were won by the Hamilton Club in the 2009 Annual Contest.



Don't let the King & Queen of Simcoe, Nestor and Evelyn Rosa, fool you with their royal smiles - Nestor swings a mean cane.



JR keeps his "squeeze" Andrea Bakai close by shortly before her debut movie at the club.



Manfred Ernst is too busy reading "Videomaker" to take club photos.



George Gerula (right) listens intently as Fred Briggs talks and, doing two things at once, holds up the main support beam in the legion.



Agnes Houston listens intently during the calling of the winning 50/50 numbers.



Paul Bentley (left) amuses Rick Doelle (centre) with his story while Alex Szatmary squeezes his eyes shut and thinks "Oh no, not that story again".



Carolyn Briggs looks interested in the club activities but she is really thinking, "Did I leave the stove on before we left the house?".



The "Liquid Ice" group accept their awards from the SCCA contest.