



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



Visitors

The HV/FM continues to draw visitors and members to our club each month. For April 2011 we welcomed Mark Van Noord who currently makes, edits, and shoots videos. He came to the club to meet some new people, and to learn. Ernest Gibson was on his second visit to the club, and is interested in becoming a member. Ernest is a member of "the Factory" and came to the club to get to know some more film/video makers in our community. Larry McKenzie was introduced to the HVFM at the friends festival; where he bought some short films that were made by some of our club members. He wants to learn and would like to make some language tutorials.

The current members are always happy to meet and talk with anyone who is interested in what we do, wants to show their work and join in the amateur movies making community.

Annual General Meeting

Ralph Trouten had to make the Annual General Meeting more time efficient this year due to the fact that we had lots of movies to show and discuss. Jon Soyka as usual challenged Ralph to make the session no longer than 5 minutes but still cover all of the legal aspects that were required although I did not notice any government auditors in the assembled crowd to make sure we followed the law. The AGM meeting was quick, it was to the point and very enjoyable. Ralph reminded us that our club has 9 active board members, 3 of which are replaced or re-elected each year and run for a three year term. Our executive is a great film/video makers community, and it's a great way to get to know some

of the more experienced members. As of now, we know that Jon Soyka will continue being our president for the up coming year. In addition Harold Cosgrove and Manfred Ernst were re-elected and Nestor Rosa joined the fray and will start his first three year term.

Mary Cosgove presented the membership report, and it was a little sad to hear that seven previous members did not renew this year. It was good to hear that we have three new members hopefully the next year brings more visitors and members. Ralph read the reports from Bill Traynor (Financial) and Carolyn Briggs (Secretary).

We still have money in the bank, but our expenses are rising and the monthly stipend we receive from the coffee funds and the 50/50 ticket sales are not what they should be.



Jon Soyka (right) checks his watch and congratulates Ralph Trouten on another short and successful AGM.

***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.***

Video's shown at the April 2011 meeting

Once the AGM was finished, Ralph took his seat (and I think started planning next years event) while Jimmy Small got ready to project the first of the nights entertainment.

First up was **“VINTAGE TRANSPORT”** by Harold Cosgrove. This video was made 10 years ago, and took 2 weeks to make. It was a fond look at the methods of public transit on the Isle Of Man including a horse pulled tram and a small guage railway. I guess the shots of the TT races aren't really public transit. Members commented that pulling back on the zoom gave motion, almost like he was running after the train. Harold has a steady hand (no tripod was used) and he has a good voice for documentaries. Fred gave a compliment on the smooth panning action

Robert Prince was second up with one minute look at his new **“GRANDDAUGHTER”**, shot while testing out his new home made steady-cam. The video was very cinematic with slow pans, accentuated colour, great lighting and a good variety of shots. Thankfully, for this subject, there was No Blood! Its new, but good to see. We didn't hear any squeaks or noises from the steady-cam, which is great knowing that its home made.

“LIJIANG CORMORANT FISHING” from Ben Andrews is a work in progress. Ben presented it as raw footage and asked for comments before he starts the next stage of production. It looks like some of the footage can be made into a horror style film with misty river shots and feet. It was basically a short river journey, in China, on log rafts, over a dam (twice) ending up with the group watching a local fisherman catch large fish with trained cormorants. Members felt that it could be turned into two separate short films with one section about rafting on the river and the other about the

fishing. It's still a work in progress, and would be more enjoyable with a commentary. It was also felt that it could use some more fishing shots

“BOYS CLUB INTERVIEW” by Dan Copeland was a 2 minute interview with a story, but it was a little jumpy in some parts. Also a work in progress it was felt that it had some really interesting shots and it would benefit from some more b-roll (which Dan was waiting for as part of the story involved a person trekking to the North Pole without Dan along to record it).

Joan Jacquemain's **“THRILLED CHILDREN”** was a look at the destruction of a vintage building in downtown Brantford. As well as shooting the buildings demise, Joan also shot some of the kids watching the action and their resulting expressions. Comments included that the framed text was a little distracting, the sound effect from the window breaking was very loud and the overall volume needs to be evened out a little. It would have been nice to show some old photos of the building in the introduction (you can find old photos from the historical society, library, or newspaper). This is a great kind of documentary

“THE ODD COUPLE” by Rick Doelle couldn't be shown, because we couldn't find it. The Sony Playstation that we use shows a million different formats, but not this one. So I guess we'll have to see it another day.

A short trailer by Robert Prince suffered the same fate although it may be that Robert simply forgot to copy it to the USB stick.

The final viewing was a short You Tube clip of Animal Sounds from the BBC. It succeeded in its intent - to have everyone leaving with a smile on their face.



Jon Soyka (left) gets ambushed by a visitor and asked questions before he gets his coat off.



It looks like Mary Cosgrove has just told Jim Small something he wasn't expecting.

The Future is NOW

This is the month in which you bring your entries for the annual contest along with copies of the CORRECTLY and LEGIBLY filled out entry form. The rules and entry form are included along with this newsletter. It would be nice to have at least one entry from each paid up member in the club, HINT HINT.

The project for this month is to produce an "Interview".

The Rules are that it can not be your spouse but it should be another club member (*if you live far away from other members we will make the exception*). It has to be a real person (no puppets, animals etc.) No more than 5 minutes long in duration (including intro and credits) Should feel like a story (beginning, middle, end). B-roll is a must if you are going to make it interesting!

See you all on May 5th!



Nestor Rosa (right) newly elected to the club executive, pleads with President Jon Soyka to go gently on him and no hazing tricks.



George, George, George... if you want a good video you have to put the camera on the contraption first, then move around.



Is CSIS aware of this clandestine meeting between Jack Simpson (left) and Dave Stewart, both members of the "stripes" club.



Ralph Trouten gets ready for his big moment in the spotlight, the AGM.



Jimmy Small thinks "Was that my back making that sound or did my pants just split?"



Oops.. it's Andrea Bakaj, the 50/50 lady, caught with her hand in the cookie jar again.