

Lakeview landmarks focus of photo exhibit

By MARK HOLMES Staff

*Reel Biop.
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Dave Slawomir Klepacki has been a shutter bug since he was an 8-year-old boy in Warsaw, Poland.

"It has been a life long hobby," said Klepacki, who is exhibiting his work at the Lakeview Library throughout January.

The 43-year-old photographer flirted with the camera knowing full well it might turn into a life-long affair and, even his studies as a computer programmer failed to curb his passion.

In 1983, while his country was under marshal law and the communist regime was teetering, he left Poland to seek opportunity in Canada.

He said he wasn't allowed to take much of anything with him and his beloved photographic equipment and his collections were left behind. Further hindering his

pursuit of photography was a language barrier.

"I had as bit of language problem when I first came here," said Klepacki, who took a factory job but still maintained his interest in the camera.

As his English language skills improved he returned to working with computers but about four years ago Klepacki starting thinking about pursuing his first love on a full-time basis.

"I was shooting the odd wedding, landscapes, flowers, anything that interested me," he said.

In 1991, he finally took the plunge and with his 2-1/4 inch Hasselblad and a Nikon 35 mm F801 he began capturing local landmarks on film.

Many of those landmarks, like the Lakeview Generating Station and Cawthra Estate, are depicted in his 15-piece show at the library.

"A lot of people have lived here (in Mississauga) for years and they haven't seen these things," Klepacki said.

Klepacki works in both color and black-and-white and he does his own developing and printing.

I really like what I'm doing now," Klepacki said, adding that he fully intends to follow up this show with an ode to spring collection of pictures in April.

For information about the photo show and other library programs call Lakeview Library at 274-5027.

Staff photo by Rob Beintema
Dave Klepacki, a native of Poland, will be sharing his love for photography with the public during the month of January with his 15-piece exhibition at Lakeview Library.

