

Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers

Meeting Notes – January 9, 2014

Featured presentation notes:

January's meeting was one of our semi-annual "member images nights". This month's theme was "the magic light of winter". Members discussing their images were:

- Hendrik Broekman
- Katherine O'Hara
- Wayne Hall
- Mark Hopkins
- Raj Das

There was much interesting and constructive discussion about subject matter, techniques employed both in the camera and in post-processing, as well as an intriguing lesson on the physics behind some of the colors that can be found in snow in the winter by Hendrik.

Announcements:

1. **Next meeting, Thursday, February 13, at 7:00 p.m.**, Community Room of Newbury Court, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA, off ORNAC Road (Old Road to Nine Acre Corners), just south of Emerson Hospital. (Directions, notice of cancellation due to bad weather, etc., on our web site <http://svnp.homestead.com>.)

"An Interactive Play Date with Adobe Lightroom™ - Hendrik Broekman (a detailed description follows later in this newsletter)

2. Exhibit space at Newbury Court was discussed. The area available to us now is the wall area in the Community Room itself. Additional space may be made available later. Newbury Court will install picture molding for us prior to our February meeting. We should be ready to start hanging prints (one per participating member, initially) at that meeting. Stay tuned for further information.
3. Cancellation of meetings due to winter weather: we will post notice of any meeting cancellations on the home page of our website in

addition to sending out an Email, so please check the website if in doubt.

4. Here's an exhibit that should be worth a visit – it's at the Harvard University Museum of Natural History:

THOREAU'S MAINE WOODS: A Journey in Photographs with Scot Miller
On view through September 1, 2014

This special exhibition commemorates the 150th anniversary of the publication of Thoreau's *The Maine Woods*. Photographs by Scot Miller, who traversed Maine for years, retracing Thoreau's footsteps, accompany original text from Thoreau's essay collection.

5. Upcoming seminar of interest (March 29 and 30 in Waltham): our friend Mike Milicia sent the following:

"I wanted the photographers on my email list to be among the first to know that I have finally managed to arrange for Chas Glatzer to come up to the Boston area to do a Shoot The Light weekend classroom seminar with me :

<http://shootthelight.com/Workshops-2014/STL-Seminar-in-MA/1/>

If you are not familiar with Chas' work, follow the above link and click on "Portfolio" once you have read about the seminar."

6. The SVNP Steering Committee will be meeting on January 16 to discuss a number of important topics. We will distribute notes from the meeting as soon as they are available.

Schedule of Upcoming SVNP Programs:

Feb. 13, 2014	"An Interactive Play Date with Adobe Lightroom™" – Hendrik Broekman
March 13	John Slonina – "Dynamics of Wildlife or Nature Photography"
April 10	TBD
May 8	Bob Cooke – subject TBD

We need programs for April, and for June and beyond.

Volunteers/suggestions are always welcome!

Here's a description of February's program, provided by Hendrik:

Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers
February 13, 2014 Presentation
An Interactive Play Date with Lightroom
Hendrik Broekman, presenter

play date, *n, comp.*: a time assigned to gather a group for mutual amusement, e.g., children, dogs, photographers, etc. In this instance you bring photos and kibitz. I bring a computer (with Lightroom installed) and follow instructions (which photo to choose to work on, what to do to it, you name it) according to either individual kibitzers or the sense of the room. Sound fun? Here's the pitch.

Adobe Photoshop Lightroom is a powerful program that should, at the very least, be considered by any photographer. It has been my image editor of first choice since its first version (it's currently up to version 5.3). The evening's title was not chosen wholly for its whimsy for, while I regard Photoshop as work, I really do find Lightroom to be play. By the way, I started with Photoshop and continue to use it for the things it can do that lie outside Lightroom's reach. The list of such things has shortened with each successive version of Lightroom.

I will begin the evening with a short (~10 minute) introduction to Lightroom's many capabilities some of which have little to do with photo editing. That will be the extent of the formal lesson. After that my wish is to demote myself to the role of helmsman/navigator and cede the function of captain to all of you. For most of this session, Lightroom will just be the image editor we're using because that's what I know best. Still, even if you come to the session with no knowledge of Lightroom, I intend for you to have a much better idea of its editing capabilities (the whats, not necessarily the hows) by the time we turn the lights back on.

Please think of this as a different sort of member photo night. For the success of the evening, please don't be shy. You are positively invited to contribute original photo files (befores, not afters - although seeing how close Lightroom can get to a few afters might be

instructive, newer files, older files, even files that have given you trouble) and let's all knock heads on how to optimize them. Some files might go just one way, others might go in several directions. Lightroom can accommodate these circumstances and has the resources to compare outcomes. I suspect we might have some very useful things to say and share amongst ourselves. Let a thousand flowers bloom.

So, here's the nitty-gritty: My image contribution to the evening will be some file photos chosen for specific points and some images I will have shot earlier in the week and will import from the camera card during the session. You could do the same or you may bring your selected images to the meeting on a USB thumb drive. Alternatively, if you have a personal Dropbox, you may wish to get them to me beforehand in that manner (henkbroekman@gmail.com); I think we will all appreciate every little bit of time we can free up for discussion.

In any case, please do contribute 5-10 files in their original form, preferably raw files but unedited, un-resized jpegs or tiffs will be fine - whatever you typically shoot. No guarantees about getting to them all - that will depend on what others bring and how the editing discussions go. You might think of the files as a part of the price of admission. Having a healthy selection of images that present different artistic and/or technical challenges might allow a very useful thread (or several) to spring up and flourish. We will, of course, need to work within the capacities of the projector so we probably won't be too engaged in precise color editing.

I will maintain the edited contributed files for a short period in case the owners of the images wish to have copies via email or dropbox. Multiple versions can be transmitted, as well.

SVNP Exhibit Calendar:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Exhibit Location</u>
Ongoing	Betsy Moyer	Waiting room of Lincoln Physicians, 233 Concord Rd. (Rt 126), Lincoln
Through Feb.	Bob Cooke	Nancy's Air Field Café Boxborough Road, Stow, MA – images from Botswana

SVNP Group Exhibits:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Exhibit Location</u>
Soon to be	The Community Room at Newbury Court, Concord, MA
November 2014	Raytheon Room, Wayland Library

About SVNP

The Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers
is an informal and non-competitive group of amateur, advanced, and professional photographers from the western suburbs of Boston, brought together by their passion for capturing the beauty and power of nature through photography.

The group was established in 1995, and regularly exhibits its members' work throughout eastern Massachusetts and on the Internet.

Visit our web site at <http://svnp.homestead.com>