

SVNP NEWSLETTER, JANUARY, 2021

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 14 MEETING

Happy New Year! There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting as soon as May, 2021. Any suggestions you may have for programs – especially of a how-to nature – would be appreciated. Please email (wah@waynehallphotography.com) or call (978-443-9226) Wayne if you are willing to give a presentation yourself or if you know someone to recommend.

The Evening's Presentation: Annual Life of Elk

Karin McQuillan departed from her advertised program, which was to chronicle her life on a ranch on the Snake River in Wyoming since her move in 2000 from the East. Instead, she devoted her entire presentation to her experience of having to co-exist with elk herds nearby (i.e., in her back field!) In a series of impressive stills and videos culled from several years of observing, Karin illustrated the annual life of elk, though largely limited to those portions of the year in which the elk are present in her immediate area. They come and go, following food and safety. The program started just after the birth in spring of the calves and described the herd's activities for rest of the year, including the rut in the fall. They don't winter on the property, but just down the road apiece, in the National Elk Refuge.

The narration was delivered conversationally but was very informative. When asked, Karin estimated that the preponderance of the information she was sharing was gathered by observation. With such an incredible opportunity, who wouldn't rush right out and camera up? How fortunate that Karin knows her way around a camera so well and came to the project well prepared. Lucky us!

Member Images

While waiting for the start of the main event, **Hendrik Broekman** presented some images of ice and some of birds taken in the new year.

Sue Abrahamsen offered several recent photos: three of Snowy Owls, two of pintail ducks taking off and one of a Blue Jay, treated with a negative vignette.

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

February 2021 Preview: The People of Cuba

Anne Umphrey writes, "Cuba holds an allure with its vibrant culture, very friendly people and challenging political system. Although I'm interested in photographing the natural world, my true passion is making photos of people and their cultures. In February I will conduct a tour of Cuba and its people, based on the four trips I have made to this fascinating country."

March 2021: Member Images Night

The March 11 (Zoom) meeting has been reserved for our next more-or-less-semiannual member images night. We wanted to choose a theme that was in some way relevant to the current times, so here's what we came up with: Plan B

Here's the premise. Many of us have been frustrated and challenged by the constraints placed on our nature photography by the pandemic. Hopefully no one has tossed his or her gear into a closet until Covid passes. It's likely that many of us have looked for fresh subject matter in locations that we might have ignored in more normal times.

In other words, socially distanced, safely accessed locations, or garden flowers in summer, or birds outside the dining room window, or plants on the windowsill in interesting light, or ants on the kitchen counter, or... You get the idea. As usual, please plan on up to five images (original and processed versions of an image count as one), and be prepared to discuss why, how, and where you created the image, as well as any post-processing you may have done.

Member News

Barbara Peskin will be giving an online Fireside Chat on February 25 (7 PM) for the Lincoln Land Conservation Trust. Information about the Zoom meeting appears at the link given below. Registration will be open about two weeks before the event.

<https://lincolnconservation.org/events/zoom-fireside-chat-with-barbara-peskin-spring-birds/>

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

Ed McGuirk garnered the honor of third place in the 2020 Editor's Picks at the Nature Photographer's Network with a fine landscape titled Snow and Fog Arches NP. The full list of awards may be found at the link given below. Congratulations, Ed. You wuz robbed!

<https://www.naturephotographers.network/2020-yearly-editors-picks/>

Around the Web

In the past few weeks, when I wasn't either doom-scrolling the news or catching up on the phenomenal pianist, Yuja Wang, I came across some useful items on the web. One video which strikes me as wholesome and easy to follow, by Mark Denney, a North Carolina photographer, is devoted to some of the processing problems associated with winter photography. Most of his observations should be transferable to other editing platforms.

7 Lightroom Tips To Transform Your Winter Photos (Mark Denney)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tq6vtNLtl78>

Another video devoted to winter photography, this one by the Danish photographer, Mads Peter Iversen, casts a wider net and also deals usefully with problems of shooting in winter, including choosing a subject.

10 Winter Tips (Mads Peter Iversen)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=51xICrecgOk>

Also from this fine photographer is an impressive video explaining some of the concepts of minimalism. These could come in quite handy for the photographer with cabin fever.

Minimalism (Mads Peter Iversen)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ih4lnLiYbiU>

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

And, finally, this came in over the transom. It is timely, amusing but informative and ever-so-slightly photography-related.

Building the Perfect Squirrel-Proof Bird Feeder (Mark Rober)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFZFjoX2cGg>

UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

Feb 11 Anne Umphrey - *The People of Cuba*

Mar 11 Semi-annual Member Images Night: *Plan B*

Apr 8 Terri Ackerman - *The Younger Generation*

Please Note – We expect meetings to be held electronically, via the web, until such time as the membership feels safe in engaging in face-to-face gatherings.

SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Group Exhibits

Ongoing/ On Hiatus	Newbury Court - Community Room, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA rotating exhibit
Postponed	Wayland Public Library - Raytheon Room, 5 Concord Road, Wayland, MA
May-June 2021	Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm St, Concord, MA; <i>25th Anniversary Exhibition</i>

Individual Member Exhibits

SVNP members - please notify Wayne Hall (wah@waynehallphotography.com) of your upcoming individual exhibits for posting on the SVNP website.

Date	Member	Exhibit Location
Ongoing	Marijke Holtrop	Online Exhibit on the website of the Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge (http://farnwr.org/gallery.html)
Ongoing	Betsy Moyer	Newbury Court Senior Living, Concord MA <i>Neighborhood Flowers</i> , 5th floor, south bldg

An Invitation from your Editor

If having a meatier monthly read is of interest to you then, please, I invite you to send anything you may wish to contribute to future newsletters (a précis of an upcoming presentation, photos, personal news, reviews, neat tricks you find worth sharing, etc.) to me at henkbroekman@gmail.com. Please include SVNP in the subject line.

I especially invite presenters and members sharing images to select and submit files for illustrative purposes. I expect it would be possible to accommodate two images or so for main presenters and one each for after-presentation sharing. Generally, expect to see half-column layout along the lines of this example. If you have photos you may wish to share, please submit jpg files sized no smaller than 1200 px on the long side. Submission deadline will be 11:59 pm on the Monday following the meeting. Inclusion in any particular newsletter will be at my discretion based on newsletter length, distribution file weight, current workload, etc.

Hendrik Broekman



*Late Summer Dragon;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*