

SVNP NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY, 2021

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11 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: The People of Cuba

During the heyday of Cuban tourism in the early 2010s, **Anne Umphrey** had the good fortune to be able to travel to and through Cuba on four different occasions. She presented a program which was a distillation of her favorite images from those four trips. These ran the gamut of genres from landscape to portrait. Anne was at pains to feature her admiration for the people of Cuba and their warmth, which was ubiquitous in the countryside but somewhat tempered in more urban areas where the defense of the Revolution is taken seriously.



La Abuela; photo, Anne Umphrey



Valle de Viñales; photo, Anne Umphrey

Despite the general lack of a common spoken language (a lot of smiling and gesturing and holding up a camera goes a long way), Anne reported experiencing very few constraints on image making.

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Landscape photographers have a good deal to choose from while traveling in Cuba. Anne showed views of old Havana, vistas along the Malecón as well as less well-known scenes, such as the view of Viñales Valley

This was a wide-ranging and informative program, well presented. The group was enthusiastic and stayed engaged with the material and its presentation. Good job!

Member Images

In a riff on Anne Umphrey's stated subject, **Karin McQuillan** showed photographs of the people in her surrounding communities, from potato farmers to cowboys to pie ladies. From further afield were images from Death Valley and Florence, Italy.

Hendrik Broekman offered several photos and demonstrated the progression of each in Lightroom from straight out of camera to a reasonably finished product.

Barbara Peskin has been researching moving up in cameras and showed some results from two candidates, including some images of a pine grosbeak and some of Ginger, the horse.

March 2021 Preview: 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,

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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/>

SVNP co-founder, Budd Titlow, has a new article dealing with the necessity of arresting climate change. It may be found at

<https://tinyurl.com/y4h62fuq>

Around the Web

Speaking of the pandemic, in an article in the New York Times concerning small-batch baking for those sheltering at home (<https://tinyurl.com/43d6xbt9>), I came across the link given below. The proprietor is not only a baker but a working photographer/videographer/blogger. He provides an interesting discussion of photography. Perhaps you might find yourself drawn to some of the recipes as much as I am...

<https://mikebakesnyc.com>

More pandemic stuff: I found this video by the landscape photographer, Nigel Danson, of interest for its suggestion that lockdown can be used as an opportunity to broaden one's post-processing skills. In other words, revisiting and improving one's older images as another source of new photographic activity.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nrbTuW3GVPk>

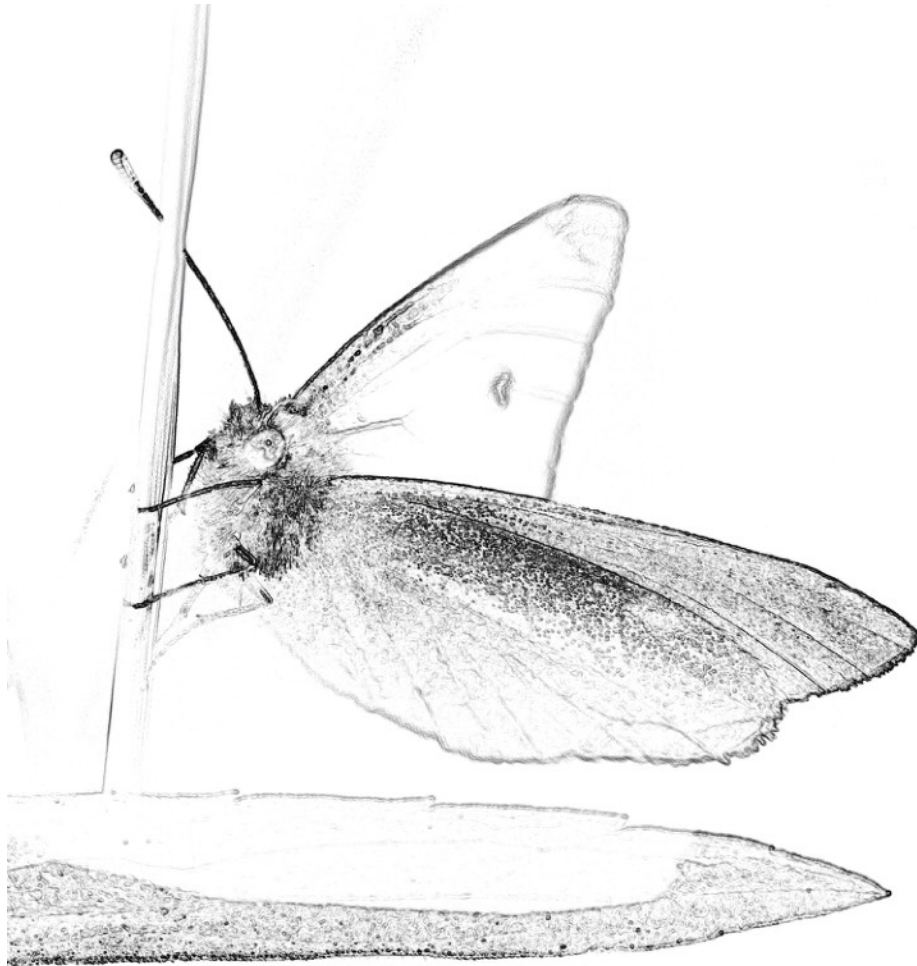
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UPCOMING SVNPN PROGRAMS

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



*Seventh Inning Stretch;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*