

SVNP NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY, 2023

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9 MEETING

The group desire to institute a hybrid process that would allow in-person as well as electronic attendance was frustrated in February, which given live without a Zoom component. Current plans envisage that both March and April presentations will be presented live with remote attendance available.

Wayne Hall offered his impressions of the comments gathered at this past Wayland Public Library exhibition and they were frustrating, to say the least. The library is experiencing an unfortunate storage crunch which has turned the Raytheon Room into a storage closet/rummage bin. Consequently, any suggestions of proper exhibit spaces that we might consider for annual shows would be most welcome.

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting as soon as May, 2023. As usual, 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.

January Presentation: Mark Hopkins

Mark Hopkins gave a delightful in-person talk, titled *It's Never Too Late* to a small but appreciative gathering. Mark's talk is one he normally gives to photographic innocents which is meant to explain not only the whys of being a photographer but many of the ensuing wherefores, as well. His assertion that the camera pales in importance in comparison to the eye of the photographer is no doubt mind bending to some (if not eye-opening), but Mark's point was directed toward the need to see, really see, whatever you're looking at. To paraphrase, "Paying attention - seeing what you see - is what being perceptive is all about." Thus armed, a photographer can capture superior images with just about any camera he or she might be competent to use.

The visual component of the presentation was split up between entertaining didactic slides and Mark's wonderful images of such

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things as Turkey Tail mushrooms in a strawberry field, tree roots exposed along a river bank, closeups, creatures, window frost ... and the list goes on.

Mark finished his talk with a brief discussion of the travails of self publishing. Having already produced three books in this fashion in association with Amazon, he knows whereof he speaks. The TLDR is that the process is tedious, fraught with difficulties and a good way to avoid making a profit, but remains an efficient way to get one's work off the computer and into people's hands. The group was enthusiastic in their praise of the presentation.

March Preview

Anne Umphrey writes, "Last late summer/early fall I spent three weeks in Iceland looking at and making pictures of the landscape, geology (a special interest of mine), and culture, and hoping for a view of the Northern Lights. All of this was accomplished. I will not only share some of the things I saw and did but why I am going back this summer for more, as well."

Member News

Marilyn Tromer writes, "On 2/20/23 National Habitat presented a webinar photography lesson featuring our beautiful canyons in Utah and Arizona titled, *Photography Lessons from America's Canyon Country*. We can now view that webinar using the link below. I think our members would enjoy viewing it."

<https://tinyurl.com/2dapbt2h>

Around the Web: New Year's Retrospectives

Along with fireworks in gloriously wretched excess, the transition between years often brings sundry lists of all sorts. This newsletter item is one such, and lists three different takes on what a year-end photographic retrospective on YouTube can be.

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One video that grabbed my eyes is this effort by the fine Danish landscape photographer, Mads Peter Iversen. In the presentation, he engages in lots of discussion (in fluent English) of the photos and conditions in which they were shot, along with some behind the scenes (BTS) footage. N.B., his videos are adverts for his own photography instruction business. Even so, the photography is first rate.

<https://youtu.be/IBY69A5Tm2Q>

Another interesting video is by Steve Perry which is titled, "Why I Photograph Wildlife and Best Photos of 2022." If you close your eyes, it is a cogent explanation of his purpose in being a wildlife photographer. If you turn the sound down, it is a slide show of wonderfully accomplished wildlife photography.

https://youtu.be/AxSBWrE4D_s

But my favorite is this very well done, relatively short video (wordless) by the gifted Scottish nature photographer, Espen Helland, featuring twenty one of his favorite wildlife photos from 2022. The whole video is set to instrumental music, mostly of a Celtic cast, which I find rather attractive (not my usual reaction to other peoples' soundtracks.) Display of the photos takes up a minority of the screen time. The bulk of the presentation is comprised of appropriate B-roll providing context and ambience as well as a good deal of BTS footage. In essence, this is a collection of 21 miniature videos, each telling something about the story of the photo that appears at its conclusion. Well-paced, very engaging, and highly recommended.

<https://youtu.be/YvdumdJvwq8>

Lastly, anent my December comments concerning the dour aspect of early portrait photography, it would seem I am not the only one to notice. In the present video we are shown a couple of very early instances of smiles and smirks creeping into the otherwise serious proceedings.

<https://youtu.be/X7S6eYdG624>

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Upcoming SVNP Programs

March 9	Anne Umphrey	<i>Iceland - The Country and its Geology</i>
April 13	Sherry Fendell	<i>Exploring Greenland</i>

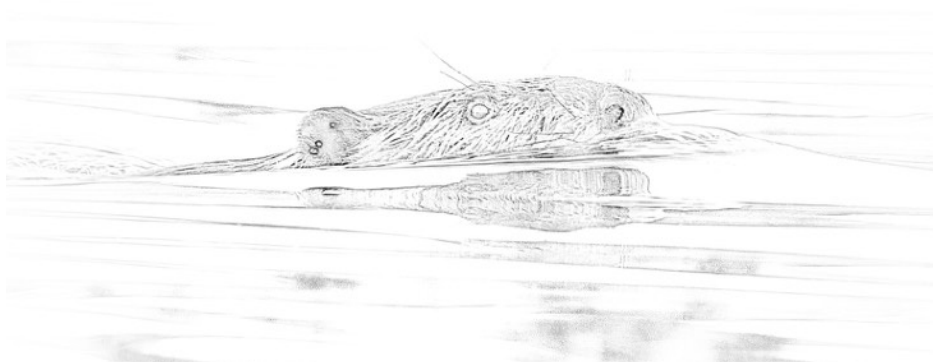
Please Note - All meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month, at 7:00 pm, either via Zoom or at our location (or both):

Great Room, Newbury Court
100 Newbury Court, Concord, MA

The decision to hold in-person meetings will be made on a month-to-month basis and communicated approximately a week before the meeting.

Updated directions to the Great Room and instructions for underground parking (to be available starting at 6:10pm on meeting evenings) may be found at the link immediately below.

http://svnp.homestead.com/files/Directions_to_Newbury_Court_Great_Room.pdf



SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Group Exhibits

Ongoing/
On Hiatus

Newbury Court - Community Room,
80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA
rotating exhibit

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



*Delicacy, thy name is Muskrat;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*