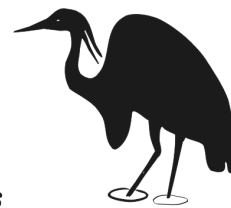


SVNP NEWS



*The Newsletter of the
Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers*

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Website: <http://svnp.homestead.com>

In This Issue

Schedule of upcoming SVNP programs
Review of February meeting
Announcements
Exhibit Calendar

About SVNP

The Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers
is an informal group of more than one hundred talented advanced amateur 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.

Meetings are held the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM in the Great Room in the Main House at Traditions Senior Living Facility, 10 Green Way, Wayland, Massachusetts.

Schedule of upcoming SVNP programs

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| April 19, 2012 | Special event with Michael Milicia – Goodnow Library, 21 Concord Road, just off Route 20 in Sudbury (note the date – this replaces our April 12 meeting) |
| May 10, 2012 | Henry Weisenberger – Alaska – images from original Kodachromes (tent.) |
| June 14, 2012 | Chris Rowan - 'The Random Beauty of Water' |

March Meeting Notes (Thanks, Betsy!)

Mark Hopkins gave an excellent presentation of images from his and his wife's trip to Quito, the capital of Ecuador; Amazonia; and the Galapagos in November/December 2010. They stayed several days in Quito, visiting the Presidential Palace, the market, colorful with its native fruits and vegetables. Farming is done with much mixing of crops, not big acreage devoted a single crop as it is here in the midwest. Their destination was the Ecotourism Lodge.

Among species they saw were the pygmy marmoset, the world's smallest monkey. They visited a native shaman who performed a purification ceremony. They also learned the origins of chocolate from the white pithy interior of the cacao shell.

In the rain forest of Amazonia there is much growth but not the rain forest we have been acquainted with. The wildlife has been devastated; just too many people. The travelers got very close to the equator: one image showed the subjects' right feet in the southern hemisphere and their left feet across a line in the northern hemisphere! Insects, you ask. Not a one on the whole trip!

The Galapagos portion of the trip was an Overseas Travel Tour with 11 other couples, during which they occupied a 100' boat which became their hotel. The trip from the mainland was a 650-mile, hour and a half plane ride. The government of Ecuador, which runs the Galapagos, maintains very strict laws about tourism on the several islands that make up the archipelago, even tracking with GPS chips all 83 boats that take tourists around. You have to be extremely careful where you walk, even on the allowed paths, since you might step on a lizard or a bird nesting right next to the path! Because the group traveled "off season," off mating season, that is, the frigate birds did not display their red inflatable pouches nor did the blue boobies perform their ritual mating dance. Nonetheless the incredible closeness and tameness of wildlife and the variety inhabiting each of the five islands allowed for extraordinary photography.

Mark traveled light, using a Canon S5 point and shoot camera for all his photography. He put the show together back home using PowerPoint.

Thank you, Mark!

During member viewing, Sue Abrahamsen showed shots of the Passion Flower and another large exotic blossom taken at Tower Hill earlier that week; two close-up shots of amaryllis, using a 100 macro with extension tubes; Canada Geese at Great Meadows.

Vivian Shein showed images taken in St. Augustine, FL, great egrets in mating plumage, roseate spoonbills, osprey, and a wood stork with spread wings, a long waited for shot.

Announcements

Michael Milicia will be talking to us about photographing birds for our April meeting. In order to invite other people, the April meeting will be held a week later, on April 19th, at the Goodnow Library in Sudbury. Therefore, we will NOT have a meeting on April 12th. You can check out his website: www.michaelmiliciaphotography.com

If you are in another club, please spread the word about this presentation!

Here is information about what will be presented:

Tools, Tips, and Techniques for Avian Photography
Presenter : Michael Milicia

This program will provide insight into how the nature photographer can deal with the many challenges that arise when photographing birds. Mike will start with a brief description of his overall approach to bird photography and then continue with a discussion and demonstration of some of his equipment including camera bodies, lenses, teleconverters, extension tubes, tripods, heads, etc.

The program will continue with a presentation of some of Mike's bird photographs as he discusses the various tools and techniques that were employed to obtain each of the images.

Questions will be welcome and encouraged throughout so that the discussion can be better targeted to the particular interests of the audience.

If you haven't yet paid, dues are: \$15 per person, \$20 per couple. Cash, or a check made out to Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers, can be given to Wayne at the next meeting, or you can send it to him: Wayne Hall, 47 Indian Ridge Road, Sudbury, MA 01776.

The Boston Camera Club and The Newton Camera Club are hosting Rick Sammon Saturday morning, March 31st. If you are interested in attending, details can be found at: http://www.bostoncameraclub.org/site/component/option,com_docman/task,doc_download/gid,181/.

SVNP Exhibit Calendar

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

Individual Member Exhibits

<u>Date</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Exhibit Location</u>
March 1-31	Joan Chasan	Panache Coffee Shop, Framingham, MA
April 1-30	Murray and Trudy Drobnis	Wayland Library (foyer), Wayland, MA

SVNP Group Exhibits

<u>Date</u>	<u>Exhibit Location</u>
Ongoing	Traditions, 6 Green Way, Wayland, MA

Other Exhibits in which SVNP Members are Participating

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Back issues of the newsletter are available on our website (click on "previous newsletters" on the home page).

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Do you have interesting website links or other information useful for SVNP members?
Feel free to send it to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion in the Newsletter!

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