

SVNP NEWSLETTER, APRIL, 2016

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE APRIL 14, 2016 MEETING

Wayne called the meeting to order a little after 7:00. He welcomed returning SVNP member Ed McGuirk and announced our May 12 program: special guest Jacob Mosser of the Greater Lynn Photographic Association will speak on Northeast Massachusetts Nature Photo Ops. Sue has seen the presentation and recommends it to all of us. On June 9 Hendrik will continue his technical presentation, "Photoshop for Nature Photographers." Ed McGuirk has stepped up for July 14 with a program dealing with Alaskan Grizzlies.

Call for Programs

We have programs scheduled through July, 2016. Any suggestions you may have for programs - especially of a how-to nature - would be appreciated. Please call (978-443-9226) or email Wayne (wah@waynehallphotography.com) if you are willing to give a presentation yourself or if you know someone to recommend.

New Show at United Parish of Auburndale

SVNP has been invited to return to UPA to hang a show. The show will run from July 18 through mid-September. Carol Walsh again will organize the show. Carol will be moving to Deer Isle, Maine in the fall but says she will return for the SVNP monthly meetings, so she will still be with us! The announced theme is "The Nature of New England." Many will recall the beautiful and well-lit space and the efficiency and friendliness of those who helped to hang the show and who visited the opening reception. The date for the opening reception has been tentatively set for early evening, Friday, July 29, 2016.

Those interested in participating are invited to contact Wayne by May 10. Further information will follow as arrangements develop.

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

River Stewardship Council

Wayne returned the last of the prints submitted by SVNP members for the traveling exhibit sponsored by the River Stewardship Council.

Newbury Court Display Space

There was discussion about allowing SVNP members to hang more than one print in the Community Room of Newbury Court, our "gallery." It was agreed that members can hang two on a first come first served basis (due to limited wall space). Betsy will look into the possibility using the North Hallway outside the Community Room.

Those interested should bring prints to the front desk and ask the concierge to let Betsy know of the delivery. Or you may contact Betsy (978-369-1261; cell 978-621-9200) and she will meet you at the Community Room (if it is unoccupied) and discuss placement.

Please provide the following information to Hendrik (henkbroekman@gmail.com or 508-358-5430):

1., The title; 2., Your name as you wish it to appear; 3., Contact information (email OR phone#); 4., Framed dimensions (Horiz. By Vert.); 5., Print medium; 6., Price, if any, otherwise please specify NFS (not for sale). For your reference, the form of the label is shown below:



Should you have any questions, please get in touch with Betsy (978-369-1261 or bmga@aol.com)

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

The Evening's Presentation – Winter Water

Steve (Gabe) Gabeler presented images from a large range of places and dates taken with a diverse collection of cameras.



Anderson Glacier; Photo: Stephen Gabeler

Headwater of the Quinault River in Olympic National Park, Washington. (Used Galvin view camera 2.25 x 3.25) Comment from Gabe: “The glacier is Anderson glacier on Mt. Anderson. The photo was taken on a backpacking trip in 1978. Someone asked what film it was - I looked at the negative and it is Kodacolor II 120 roll film.”

Bryce Canyon, UT, in February (Arca Swiss SL23B view camera)

Sherman Bridge, Wayland, Reflections (Bronica 2.25 Square camera)

Stream at Gardner Hill, Stow (Pentax K5-2 camera)

Wash Brook, off Landham Road, Sudbury, with tiny Cooper's Hawk visible in a tree in the background (Pentax K200D camera)

Abstract taken at Codman Farm, Lincoln, (Fuji X30)

Sue Abrahamsen first presented a comparison of two views of the Assabet River in winter – one color, one black and white. Most liked the color, though it was suggested bumping up the contrast would have helped the black and white version.

Wood Duck Box in Sue's back yard. She showed us the original three HDR shots, which she merged to create the beautifully colorful final version.

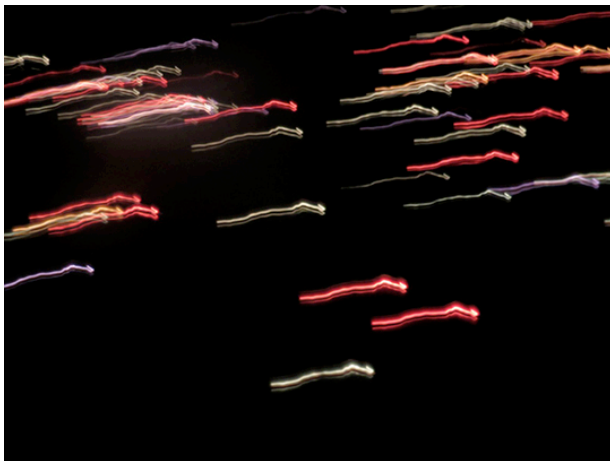
Wood Duck pair, shot through the window, with snow falling.

Tree trunk surrounded by snow, Assabet River.

View from Stow

Snowy trees near the Assabet River, behind the public library in Hudson, with magical light illuminating the tops of the trees.

Carol Walsh recently returned from a trip to Myanmar, and her images of a stilt village on the Irawaddy River were the result of that trip.



Irawaddy River; Photo: Carol Walsh

Irawaddy River, showing luminaras floating in the river. Carol very effectively played around with moving the camera while shooting the lights, creating intriguing patterns of glowworms.

Inle Lake scene showing leg rowers.

Dugout canoe the major means of transport.

Stilt village in the river.

Various design reflections in the water.

Carol remarked that everything is done on the river, which is active and noisy from about 4:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. American dollars are accepted as currency, and many speak English - making it an easy place to visit.

Ed McGuirk shoots raw and often bumps up the contrast and saturation in Lightroom and Photoshop.

Waterfall in the winter, at the Basin, Franconia Notch, NH, a much photographed sight. Ed was able to get some unusual shots by climbing out onto a rock, not the safest vantage point, but worth the risk. Shutter speed? 1/13 sec.

Methane bubbles under the ice in Abraham Lake in the Canadian Rockies, winter 2014. He was able to get some spectacular shots because there was not much snow, making the bubbles visible under the clear ice.

Before and after shots of a view of the Sudbury River facing southeast from Lee's Bridge on Rt. 117 in Lincoln, just as the sun was rising, winter 2015.

At Mass Audubon's Allens Pond Wildlife Sanctuary in Westport, MA - a rare sight of sea smoke, which can occur only when the ocean is frozen. Ed waited in 5 below zero weather for an hour to take this and a number of other shots.

Icebergs at Eastham on the Cape, last March, at sunset. F-stop 22 produced the beautiful star burst. He took multiple shots and manually blended them to produce the resulting HDR print.

Art Phipps' images were the result of a trip to New Zealand and included a brook in February.

A flock of oyster catchers.

Reflections in a shallow pond.

Milford Sound

Going through Glenorchy, a small settlement at the northern end of Lake Wakatipu

Art remarked, "You can't take a bad picture in New Zealand."

Terri Ackerman started by presenting an image she calls "Winter Glow," taken of the Sudbury River

In November 2008, Terri took a trip to Patagonia, via Argentina. This 3-D shot, giving good fore-, middle- and background, showed a parade of hikers going down a snow-covered path.

Close-up of ice formations, some of them 12' high

View of the Sudbury River, from her back yard, end of day.

Shots of icicles taken from inside her house through the window.

Wayne Hall presented shots of Walden Pond.

Several images of large soap bubbles, some reflecting the pond itself, and one showing how the bubbles were produced.



Walden Pond Abstract; Photo: Wayne Arthur Hall

about the images shown by participating photographers were about cropping.

Betsy Moyer

Two shots of ice formations at the edge of the Pond, causing Gabe to remark, "This gets an A in the 'What the Hell is This?' category."

A shot of purple creeping thyme under the ice - taken early in the morning.

Note: Many of the attendees' comments

Weather or Not, Time Permitting, in Season

I make little time for photography except on vacation and the two daily dog walks. Over many years I have come to think of each walk as just another chance to photograph the weather in some form or another, sometimes as subject, sometimes as background, sometimes as the dominant mood, sometimes otherwise. Likewise the time of day, likewise the season. In fact, during periods of stable weather, seeing the same things in the same light, day after day, one can use up one's inspiration pretty quickly. Then it becomes necessary to make change happen and spend a walk going only close or only wide, using a different lens or putting tape over the zoom button - anything that forces fresh problem solving.

Photography on a dog walk has much in common with speed dating. One has a minute or so to see a scene, evaluate it for photographic interest, identify a satisfactory point of view, compose, adjust exposure and shoot some frames. Then it's off to find where the dog has got to. When folks stop me for conversation and ask what I am after (birds?, landscapes?) I have taken to answering, evasively but quite truthfully, that I am out to photograph good light. This has proved to be a satisfactory answer for most folk and an insightful person will be able to reach in and grasp the truth. My answer ranks as an evasion because I know I am out for targets of opportunity: flora, fauna, the elements, fellow dog walkers, you name it. If it catches my fancy, it's lens fodder (happily for double entendres, I don't shoot Canon - you may take that as settled). It is true because I am always mindful of the light and will photograph modestly interesting subjects in great light and willingly turn down striking subjects if the light won't cooperate.

Like pornography, "good light" is impossible to define but we know it when we see it. Quite often it can be otherwise awful light that imparts its own transformative mood to a subject. Just as easily it may be generally nondescript light but perfect for a particular subject. We respond to change and part of the photographer's task is

to recognize when a new or striking view is truly interesting and worth sharing or is just a visual commonplace and nothing more than the most interesting thing he or she has seen in the past five minutes.

This leads me to the notion that the effect of a photograph is the sum of all its parts. The more the photographer can tip the balance in favor of what he or she perceives as important, the more successful the photograph will be. If it means getting close, by all means get close. If it means leaving something out, then leave it out. That's pretty common-sensical, no? Digital photography has the potential to allow many of these decisions to be made after the fact, back at the computer. Better yet would be to cultivate the discipline to recognize the possibilities with the camera in hand and effectively act on them while still in the field. It sometimes takes longer than the dog might allow, but with practice, not all that often.

Hendrik Broekman

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SVNPN PROGRAMS

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|---------------|---|
| May 12, 2016 | Special Guest Speaker, Jacob Mosser; My Favorite Photo Ops in Northeast Massachusetts |
| Jun. 9, 2016 | Hendrik Broekman; Photoshop for Nature Photographers, Part 2 |
| Jul. 14, 2016 | Ed McGuirk - The Grizzly Bears of Lake Clark, Alaska |

Please Note - All meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month, at 7:00 pm, at the following location:

Community Room
Newbury Court
80 Deaconess Road
Concord, MA

Directions may be found at the link immediately below

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

With security of the residents of Newbury Court in mind, the garage will only be open to entry from 6:15 to 7:15pm. Exit is always enabled.

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Group exhibits

Ongoing	Newbury Court - Community Room, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA rotating exhibit
July 18 - Sep. 18	United Parish of Auburndale, Betty Meyer Gallery - "The Nature of New England"

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)
Mar. 6-Apr. 30	Terri Ackerman	Nashoba Brook Bakery, 152 Comm. Ave., W. Concord, MA

An Invitation from your Editor

As you may have noticed, these newsletters have displayed a tendency to get longer. 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 (photos, personal news, reviews, neat tricks you find worth sharing, etc.) to me at henkbroekman@gmail.com. Please include SVNP in the subject line.



Fitting In; Photo: Hendrik Broekman

I especially invite presenters and members sharing images to select and submit files for illustrative purposes. I expect we could accommodate two images 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 320 px wide. 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