

SVNP NEWSLETTER, APRIL, 2020

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE APRIL 9, MEETING

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting in September, 2020. How the schedule may need to be further rearranged is anybody's guess at this moment. Our May presenter, George Woodland, is sheltering in place elsewhere and has taken up the group's offer to postpone. 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.

Please remember, 2020 marks the 25th anniversary of SVNP. There is an invitation open to any and all for suggesting activities that might appropriately help celebrate the occasion.

Member Images Night

If you attended the April 9 meeting, Member Images Night on the theme *Am I Blue?*, conducted on the Zoom platform, it's likely that you did so sitting in the same chair in which you are reading this report. If not, don't be blue -- you're in for a treat. The meeting featured good stuff by a dozen photographers, and, between cabin fever and the unbeatable commute, went a bit longer than our norm.



Puffin; photo, Barbara Peskin

Barbara Peskin offered several critter photos, mostly shot in Maine. Two images did not involve water creatures: a before and after shot of a bluebird and one of five Cedar Waxwings on a cedar. For the rest, we were given seals, gulls, a loon and what what might just be Barbara's muse, a puffin

Pam Marshall showed a single image, one of a large flock of canvasback ducks in a Delaware pond.

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Nicole Mordecai

exhibited five before and after pairs of photos, four of which were of a roughly maritime nature. The first was a studio shot titled Blue Fruit. All the images demonstrated an intensification of the not always prominent blue colors found in the originals.



Low Tide Abstract; photo, Nicole Mordecai



Milky Way, Kancamagus Highway; photo, Ed McGuirk

Kancamagus Pass looking due south on 8/17/17; Canon 5D MKIV, Rokinon 14mm f/2.8 lens, shot at f/2.8, 30 seconds, ISO 3200; at 14mm the angle of view is 105 degrees

Ed McGuirk had on offer five blue hour (and later) land/sky scapes. The first, a photo of a tree and the moon taken just before sunrise mixed a healthy dollop of orange into the mix and was the

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only in landscape format. The rest were oriented vertically. The first of those juxtaposed a stately spruce with The Moon. The remaining three were Milky Way photographs taken from, variously, the Kancamagus Highway, a bridge over the Connecticut River and on the Schoodic Peninsula in Acadia. These had people asking to see the before shots and Ed has reciprocated by asking that both versions of the Kancamagus photo be shown here as well as the technical information pertinent to the capture.

Doris Monteiro showed a five images: a Hydrangea seen on Cape Cod, and two each of either a Purple Gallinule or a Boat-tailed Grackle.

Anthony Monteiro offered five large bird images: A Tri-color Heron standing over a clutch of blue eggs, a Cattle Egret perched in a conifer in front of a blue sky, a Little Blue Heron and its reflection in blue water, an Anhinga flipping a meal for swallowing and a Great Blue Heron feeding.

Former member **Katherine O'Hara** made a surprise guest appearance and showed some photos from her new neighborhood, loosely, the upper left corner of the lower 48 as well as one shot taken on a helicopter ride in Hawaii. She also offered two Milky Way photos, one taken at Escalante National Monument and the other with the Milky Way standing upright on Mount Ranier.



Snow Geese; photo Katherine O'Hara

Hendrik Broekman showed five before and after shots of various scenes taken a good deal closer to home.

Sherry Fendell offered six photos made on a very recent trip to Vietnam and Cambodia. We were treated to a range from blue atmospherics in Halong Bay and the mountains in the north to an old blue Austin in Hue, blue face masks (they were taken that recently) in Angkor Wat to a bespoke shirt of the most extraordinarily alarming blue (though no more extraordinary than the disarmingly wide smile of its maker.)



Blue Ice; photo, Terri Ackerman

Terri Ackerman seemed to have the most fun with the subject -- the evening's theme was her suggestion, after all. Even if a photograph had little blue in it, her captioning ascribed "blue" emotions to many of the scenes: two bluebirds sharing a branch but seeming to ignore each other; an image of sad sack seals; one of a dejected looking penguin. But there were several

riffs on the color, as well.

Sue Abrahamsen offered a variety of images. One was a confection featuring a grandchild in a Jack-in-the-Pulpit. There were two photos of bluebirds. In fact, if there had been a bluebird picture contest going in the evening sharing, Sue would no doubt have taken the blue ribbon for



Bluebirds All in a Row; photo, Sue Abrahamsen

most bluebirds in a single shot with her photo of four resplendently blue bluebirds sitting on the same branch. Images of fringed gentian, a jellyfish and ice in Patagonia completed the collection.



*Lily Pads, Hamlen Woods;
photo, Wayne Hall*

Wayne Hall exhibited five images taken involving flora around eastern Massachusetts. Other than a photo of chicory flowers, the blue in each of the rest was contributed as a counterpoint by the sky, either directly or in reflection.



In the Limelight: Susanna Kamon

Great Blue Heron at the Beaver Pond

Another one of the many species to visit this beaver pond was this great blue heron. He or she visited several times, It was interesting to watch her moving slowly and stealthily along the water's edge, moving first just her head forward, while keeping her body motionless, and then moving her body forward, while keeping her head still. The photo is another still taken from a video capture.

Coyote in Early Fall



This coyote was one from a family of five coyotes that I had the privilege of watching over the course of a year. I saw them mostly at night, and they grew from a mating pair, which I began to see in early spring, into a family of five, which I started to see (and hear) together by early fall. This was a rarer daytime sighting. This coyote first ran towards the camera and passed it, and then she returned a few minutes later. As she ran away, she paused for a moment and glanced behind her, probably in reaction to the camera, and that is the moment that is captured here.

Susanna Kamon

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Member News

Barbara Peskin has forwarded news of a draft plan to increase access to hunting at the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge. If this is an issue that interests (or alarms) you, public comment is open until May 4, 2020. Both the draft proposal as well as a news release that contains contact info for comment may be found at:

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/great_meadows/

Around the Web

I primarily shoot micro four-thirds gear. Consequently, some of my discretionary web time is spent pursuing a better understanding of the challenges my chosen gear presents and ways to overcome them. It occurred to me recently that any camera presents challenges and that much of the advice pitched at micro four-thirds users would probably be universally applicable.

Thomas Stirr is a Canadian pro photographer who made a name for himself by leaving his DSLRs behind and adopting the Nikon 1 as his chosen camera. The Nikon 1, which he shoots brilliantly, has an even smaller sensor than micro four-thirds. He has subsequently started to introduce micro four-thirds into his practice. The takeaway for me is that what Mr. Stirr is able to do with the smallest “serious” sensor going puts the rest of us on our mettle to at least equal his results. It’s not as easy as it sounds. His website/blog is on my regular rotation.

<https://smallsensorphotography.com>

Scott Bourne is another pro with a specialty in bird photography. On his site he offers observations that strike me as wholesome and useful advice on a wide range of photographic subjects.

<https://picturemethods.com>

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

May. 14	Reprise - <i>Am I Blue?</i>
June 11	TBA
July 9	Hendrik Broekman - <i>Travel? Who Needs It: Photos Close to Home</i>
Aug. 13	Pam Marshall & David Emerson - <i>Astrophotography at a PhotoPills Workshop</i>

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, TBA	Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm St, Concord, MA; <i>25th Anniversary Exhibition</i>
November, 2020	Wayland Public Library - Raytheon Room, 5 Concord Road, Wayland, MA

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
Ongoing	David Emerson	The Gallery at 51 Walden, Concord, MA, <i>Canals of Venice</i>

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



*Spring Shower;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*