

SVNP NEWSLETTER, APRIL, 2020

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE APRIL 14, MEETING

The group wish to institute a hybrid process that would allow in-person as well as electronic attendance was fulfilled this meeting. A small group of hardy folk attended in person but remote attendees still outnumbered them by about two to one. At one point near the end of the meeting Wayne opined that the event went off better than hoped. Agreement was granted by virtue of a lack of argument. Still, these were baby steps and the contribution of any experience gained in engaging in such a practice elsewhere would be very welcome.

Planning continues for the exhibit to be presented during the months of May and June at Anne Umphrey's church, Trinity Church in Concord. The mounting of the show will take place less than a week from the publication of this newsletter. You may recall that the group's anticipated 2020 exhibit in this spectacular space was thwarted by the arrival of the plague.

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting as soon as June, 2022. 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.

April Presentation

For the April presentation **Stephen Gabeler** gave an impressive thought piece dealing with some of the whys surrounding his pursuit of photography as well as the manner in which he has integrated photography into his life experience. He touched on many of the uses to which photography can be put. For instance, his father served as an aerial



Silent City; photo, Stephen Gabeler

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reconnaissance pilot in the military. At one point Gabe referred to photography as an aid to collecting memories, whether recording dull realities or attempting to convey the emotions associated with 'being there' and, at another, he named it as a means of spreading a gospel of beauty and life. Even later he called it a very real form of time travel enabling those of us in the *now* to see in the *then*, or being *here* looking at the *there*, in this way bringing the talk back to Gabe's professional life in instrumentation. As he observes, "With the right equipment, we are able to see the invisible."



Untitled; photo, Stephen Gabeler

Gabe's approach was thoughtful, well argued and a bit fearless. He mixed his own considerations and images with liberal doses of the same by past heavyweights from both painting and photography. These references to others served not only to bolster his argument but to make clear his sympathies. Gabe's images ranged widely across photography's uses, from reportage of the quotidian to what we have come to understand as his preferred genre, artful framings of found details. These images are satisfying trophies for what he calls "the Hunter's Eye."

Any differences of chosen genre aside, it was clear that Gabe had managed to engage many of his audience right where they live with a sense of sharing the hunt. The group reaction was enthusiastic and very appreciative.

Gabe has made available the text, quotes and photos that make up the presentation at a Google Drive link [here](#). Gabe maintains a website jointly with his wife:

<https://tipplingrockcreative.net/>

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

Member News/Member Images

In expectation of a great deal more trouble with the hybrid nature of the meeting than was eventually encountered, Member Image Sharing was canceled for the evening. In a wry twist it turned out that **Bob Cooke**, as is his practice, had brought prints to display at the in-person meeting. The decision was made on the spot in the meeting room to show the prints to the Zoom participants. Thus, remote participants were treated to the sight of Gabe holding the prints up to the Zoom camera. To those of us who were not in the room they gave every evidence of being perfectly lovely images but I think it's fair to say that if this is to be a thing of our future, the technology needs some developing, if'n ya know what I mean...

Karin McQuillan contributes this image of the group in 2002 or so.



Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers in person ca. 2002; photo, Karin McQuillan

May Preview

Terri Ackerman writes, "In Fall 2021, I went on a tour to see the Silk Road in Uzbekistan. The Silk Road was the major trading route linking China with Europe in the Middle Ages. Both the art and architecture are stunning, and the dry climate of Uzbekistan has helped preserve their beauty for a thousand years."

Around the Web

In more news from 2021, the results of last year's Audubon Photography Contest have until now gone unremarked in this Newsletter. Correcting this oversight, they may be found [here](#).

Another video from the British bird photographer, Roger Hance, is concerned with creating photographic situations involving finches. It is camera specific, true, but the images are indeed dynamic and worth seeing.

<https://youtu.be/AopDHrhWM-s>

UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

May 12	Terri Ackerman - <i>The Silk Road of Uzbekistan</i>
June 9	TBD

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

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Group Exhibits

Ongoing/ On Hiatus	Newbury Court - Community Room, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA rotating exhibit
May-June, 2022	Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm St, Concord, MA; <i>25th Anniversary Exhibition (Belated)</i>
December, 2022	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	Bob Cooke	Maynard Public Library, 77 Nason Street, Maynard, MA

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



*Kestrel;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*