

SVNP NEWSLETTER, MAY, 2016

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE MAY 12, 2016 MEETING

Wayne called the very well attended meeting to order with a minimum of business. On June 9 Hendrik will continue his technical presentation, "Photoshop for Nature Photographers." Some of the topics remaining include high dynamic range processing (HDR), panorama stitching and various blending modes. 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 - the announced theme is "The Nature of New England." The date for the opening reception has been tentatively set for early evening, Friday, July 29, 2016.

The Evening's Presentation - Jake Mosser

The evening's presentation by Jacob Mosser, III was titled, "Locations in N. E. Massachusetts, with Techniques and Equipment." In describing the genesis of the program, Jake said he started by considering images in folders with titles such as "Yellowstone" and the like and quickly came to the conclusion that some tightening needed to be done. Consequently, he lit on the concept of starting small (photography in his own backyard) and moving away by degrees, but not so far afield as some of the more popular destination

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photo locations. He also described himself as interested in the full spectrum of nature photography. That would include the popular critters (foxes, snowy owls, etc.), to landscapes, to mushrooms and to bugs. That range requires a similar expanse of equipment: 500mm telephoto, tele-extenders, macro lenses and extension tubes, flashes, circular polarizers, tripods, gimbal heads, cable releases, self-timers, lions and tigers and bears, OH MY! OK, I lied, no felidae or ursidae, still, as the man said, a Lot of Stuff. The introductory slide enumerated nearly all the necessities of the trade: Love of Nature, Patience, Persistence and Camera Equipment. Those, as well as Luck. Lady Luck, as in, "If you want it to be there every time, take up architecture." The rest of the program was filled with bits of hard information about gear and techniques as well as the locations.

The photos from Jake's back yard included violets with droplets from a recent rain, the droplets accentuated with flash, iris, insects, a bluejay on a landing stick staged conveniently to both the bird feeder and the kitchen window as well as the new normal, turkeys.

Ipswich River Town Park in North Reading yielded images of geese directly after a snowfall (with snow starting to slough off the trees in a dramatic sheet), a valuable demonstration of depth of field using some milkweed, a demonstration of pre-focusing showing a bee approaching a flower as well as a demonstration of fill flash via two photos of a cardinal flower.

Next came the turn of **Harold Parker State Park in North Andover** to shine. Included in the photos were several of lady slippers. The lighting of one gained interest when it was revealed that the dark background was enabled by Jake's ability to use his own shadow, thanks to the camera's self-timer. The circular polarizer came in handy with a shot of water lilies, damping specular highlights on the leaves and the water. The use of a reflector to fill and modify light was also discussed.

The point was made that compositing is not sanctioned in nature photography and that edits must be made with zero or minimal

impact on the story, as opposed to the presentation which, it is assumed, will be optimized within the bounds of reality.

Next up, we were treated to osprey somewhere on the Saugus River, including a nest on a utility pole in the vicinity of Mike's Roast Beef.

Great Meadows NWR in Concord yielded a great many critter shots: redwing blackbird, marsh wren, woodpecker, hooded merganser, among others as well as a remarkably human-tolerant great blue heron. In an aside, Jake discussed the use of exposure compensation in preserving detail in light-colored flowers.

Parker River NWR (Plum Island) in Rowley yielded some photos but the area is essentially off limits during the plover nesting season.

Not too far away, though, **Sandy Point State Reservation in Ipswich**, seems to be more lenient in providing access. Still, visitors are required to walk below the tide line. There were some fine pix of shorebirds including one of a mass of fluff in raking light seemingly supported by at least three pair of legs.

From the **Mass Audubon Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary (accessed from Topsfield)** came some photos taken at bluebird boxes including a series involving a sparrow getting a nasty surprise while making an uninspired attempt to investigate an already occupied box.

At the **Salisbury Beach State Reservation in Salisbury** we were treated to several photos of snowy owls as well as others of foxes.

An after-presentation discussion covered a great deal of ground, from camera preferences to tripods, to settings for birds in flight. The crowd gave Jake a hearty round of applause for an evening that was both informative and enjoyable.

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

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| 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 Lower Garage will only be open to entry from 6:15 to 7:15pm. Exit is always enabled.

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Newbury Court Display Space

There has been 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 has volunteered to look into the possibility of using the North Hallway outside the Community Room, as well.

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)

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)
May 1-30	Sue Abrahamsen Bob Cooke	Nancy's Airfield Cafe, Boxborough Rd., Stow, MA Reception 3:00-4:30, Sun., May 22

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.



April Showers; Photo: Hendrik Broekman

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 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