

SVNP NEWSLETTER, MAY, 2020

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE MAY 14, MEETING

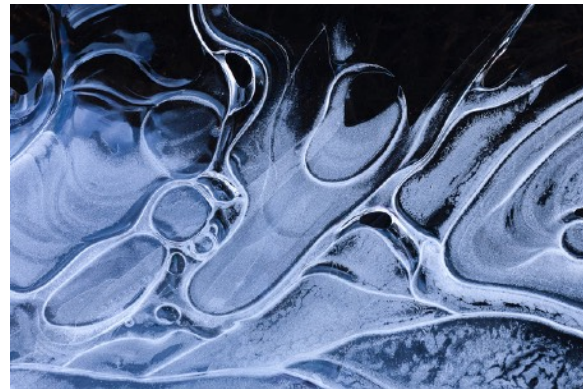
The meeting had twelve participants and started with discussion of the pandemic, especially in relation to the resumption of in-person meetings. There seemed to be a consensus of caution on this matter.

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting in September, 2020. How the schedule may need to be further rearranged continues to be anybody's guess. 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 open invitation to any and all to suggest activities that might appropriately help celebrate the occasion.

Member Images Night Redux–Am I Blue 2?

Ed McGuirk showed five landscape images. The first image, the Milky Way from the Kancamagus Highway was displayed with its original along with discussion of how the image was “developed” in post processing. The following three were of New England sights – islands in Squam Lake protruding from fog as seen from Rattlesnake Mountain, sunrise seen from Gooseberry Neck in Westport, Ma and an abstract detail of ice taken on Mount Misery in Lincoln, MA. The last image shown was of the sunrise over Abraham Lake, just outside of Banff National Park in Alberta. The Gooseberry Neck photograph aroused interest for the relatively bright shadow tones despite the presence of the sun in the image. Ed mentioned doing the work with luminance masks and recommended investigating the work of Tony Kuyper (<https://goodlight.us/index.html>) for help on the subject.



Ice, Mt. Misery; photo, Ed McGuirk

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

Terri Ackerman brought six images for discussion. Her photo of zebras and baboons around a waterhole in Malawi was present in three versions. From her Earthwatch tip we saw a South African tribal costume with a blue face mask. From then on it was blue skies: two summer skies, four versions of a scene of sky and reflections were discussed and, finally, an image of the reflections under the arc of Lee's Bridge in Concord and the sky beyond.



Bluebird; photo, Barbara Peskin

Hendrik Broekman showed two short series of photographs. The first concerned locally observed critters that affect some color blue. The second series was of sky blue and the part it took in enhancing many of the affects he has witnessed in the weather over the Sudbury Valley.



Perched Dragonfly; photo, Hendrik Broekman



Rocks and Lichen; photo, Stephen Gabeler

Stephen Gabeler offered a free physics lesson on the nature of blue light and its sources in the natural and built worlds. He started by explaining Rayleigh scattering which is responsible for the blue of the sky. Gabe went on to explore how, in some situations, reflections of the sky blue make telling contributions to the colors of a scene but often go unremarked. The other two sources of blue Gabe mentioned are physically present blue pigments and man-made illumination.

Anne Umphrey showed several sky photos chosen for the clouds: the moon featured in one, the second showed a train of thunderstorms. Both of these were shot from an airplane at cruising altitude. Cirrus clouds seen from the ground in Cuba were shown as a before/after pair. Also on display was a blue orchid seen at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. A wonderful feeder scene featuring a Baltimore Oriole and a Downy Woodpecker completed the set.



*Blue Orchid, Atlanta;
photo, Anne Umphrey*



Hardy Grape Hyacinth; photo, Wayne Hall

Wayne Hall brought several reworked versions of two water lily images from the first “Am I Blue?” session. The originals were taken at Hamlen Woods in Wayland. Several different crops provoked a lively discussion of their various compositional strengths. Wayne closed the group with a photo of Grape Hyacinth poking up through a late spring snow.

Don Sherman used the opportunity to commandeer the Zoom screen to show several images and discuss the strengths of Luminar 4. Don displayed images of Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Hood from our left coast as well as photos from a Rhein journey



In the Limelight: Mark Hopkins



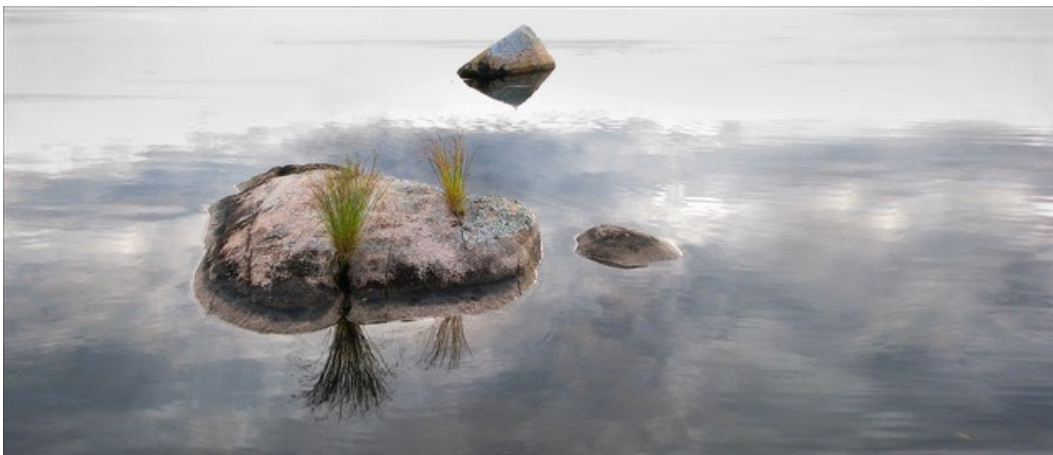
This is an image a photographer would normally crop horizontally, which is what I had in mind. But the presence of the wonderfully whacky vertical zigzags, which are reflections of sailboat masts in a Morro Bay (CA) boatyard just beyond where the birds were swimming, changed all that. It took the brilliantly blue afternoon sky to complete the composition. The birds are western grebes.



Beneath a silver sky, as I rowed through this steamy Adirondack afternoon, the languid air was heavy and the lake dissolved into the horizon's haze to fashion a flawless mirror. A shoal rising from the depths fused these three placid rocks immutably into the sultry silence, embodying the timeless serenity of a Japanese Zen garden.

Untitled; photo, Mark Hopkins

Mark Hopkins



Untitled; photo, Mark Hopkins

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

June Preview

On this evening we will invite 5-minute presentations that tell a short story, any story. Not a collection of unrelated images, a story. It could be a travelogue (something like a short boat ride or visiting a museum exhibit), or it could be the story of a shot (from the inception through working up to the final), or all (reasonable) views of a single object, or successive attempts at satisfactorily rendering a subject (even if spread over a long time), or whatever. But it should be, in essence, a photo essay on a small, well-defined subject that can be covered, and, perhaps ideally, exhausted in five minutes. It could be a report on a personal project. For instance, someone could drag out the best of all his or her bluebird photos shot over many years, and that would satisfy the rules. So would an intense five minutes at a bird feeder. These are just examples—there are infinite story possibilities out there. Go get 'em.

UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

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|---------|--|
| June 11 | Member Images – <i>Tell a Story</i> |
| 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



*Pileated Woodpecker;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*