

# SVNP NEWSLETTER, JUNE, 2023

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE JUNE 8 MEETING

The July meeting (Member Images Night) will be presented solely on the Zoom platform.

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting as soon as September, 2023. 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.

## June Presentation: Westward to Baja

After a three-year postponement due to Covid, **Hendrik and Mai-Lan Broekman** finally headed for Baja California in January of this year. Most of the adventure was a cruise on the *MV Westward*, which was built as a luxury yacht in 1924. This 99-year old wooden vessel was quite a contrast to the even smaller boat they took on a recent Alaska cruise - that vessel, built at about the same time but as a university research vessel, was considerably more Spartan, cramped, and less comfy. On this trip, the *Westward* carried eight passengers and a crew of five, including a naturalist.

The landscape of Baja is mostly desert and some mountains, but there were opportunities to hike up several arroyos, for example. Although there were many beautiful landscape and seascape images, including some gorgeous sunrise and sunset photographs, the highlight was the wildlife. The list includes marine mammals (Blue and Grey Whales, porpoises and sea lions), birds that feed from water (small shore birds, large waders such as herons and egrets, fishers such as pelicans and boobies, among others) and some land birds (from Turkey Vulture to Ash-throated Flycatcher). There was more...

As many of us know, Hendrik is a master at capturing birds in flight and wildlife behaviors in general, and this presentation contained a great number of examples. One particularly notable shot was that of a huge pelican with wings fully spread, apparently flying directly at the camera. (By the way, these guys are really ugly!) Perhaps it thought Hendrik was a fish...

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Also included were several short videos, including a particularly interesting one showing a flock of pelicans diving for fish. An underwater video, shot with Hendrik's Olympus "Tough" TG5, of sea lion pups was also of note. A planned snorkeling adventure with whale sharks had to be cancelled due to rough water.

There were many images of cactus and interesting wildflowers (many of which were unidentified, unfortunately).

All in all, this was a fine representation of a part of the world that few of us have experienced, and yet another example of Hendrik's and Mai-Lan's talent for combining excellent nature photography with an educational experience!

*Wayne Hall*

### Member Images

Some severe envy was provoked in the Zoom attendees by **Karin McQuillan's** showing several fine images of Sandhill Cranes, all taken while the birds were going about their business on her property, in sight of her front porch. She didn't even need to get into a car! This must be the height of decadence.



*Backyard Crane; photo, Karin McQuillan*

**Barbara Peskin** had on offer images of a variety of small critters, seen locally. These included a Northern Parula, squirrels, Indigo Bunting, Tree Swallow, Robin & Bluebird.

## July Preview: Member Images Night

**Wayne Hall** writes: “Our next more-or-less-semiannual Member Images Night is scheduled for July 13. The theme will be *Trees*, which was suggested by a couple of our members. If you can put together a series of images that tell a story about one particular tree, group of trees, treed location, etc., so much the better!

“Our usual rules will apply: up to five images per participant, with before-and-after-post-processing views of an image counting as one. Be prepared to share with us a description of the location, why you created the image, any special challenges you encountered, any particular techniques employed, and anything else you’d like to share. NOTE: this meeting will probably be Zoom-only – so much easier to manage that way.

“Oh, and no plastic (Christmas) trees, please...”

## Member News

**Karin McQuillan** (who seems to have a knack for interesting neighbors) writes, “I promised this photo a while ago. Ansel Adams’ son and wife are our friends and neighbors in Carmel. They are in their eighties.” Nice digs!



*Ansel Adams' House, Carmel CA; photo, Karin McQuillan*

**Barbara Peskin** writes, "I will have an exhibit in October at the Lincoln Library." More details to follow.

This year, the River Stewardship Council (SuAsCo) is experimenting with spreading its *Riverfest* activities throughout the summer rather than concentrating them in the weekend closest to the Solstice. **Hendrik Broekman** is scheduled to lead a photo walk at Heard Farm in Wayland on Wednesday, July 26, gathering time 6:00pm.

<https://www.sudbury-assabet-concord.org/riverfest-2023>

### Around the Web

One fascinating place visited by the cruise my wife and I joined in Baja California was a family fishing compound called El Pardito. The nicely made video linked below was made as part of a project documenting some of the more notable stories of people inhabiting Baja California Sur called El Color de la Memoria. In Spanish, with Spanish subtitles.

<https://vimeo.com/205662944>



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### Upcoming SVNP Programs

July 13	Member Images	Subject: <i>Trees</i>
August 10	Nicole Moredcai	<i>Creative Editing for Wildlife Photography</i>
September 14	TBA	

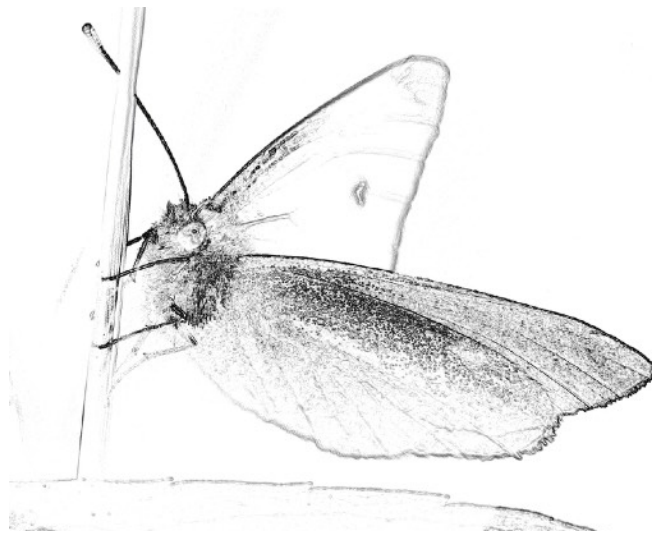
Please Note – All meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, at 7:00 pm, either via Zoom or at our location (or both):

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/files/Directions_to_Newbury_Court_Great_Room.pdf)



<http://svnp.homestead.com>

# SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

## Group Exhibits

November, 2023      Goodnow Library, 21 Concord Road, Sudbury,  
MA

## Individual Member Exhibits

SVNP members - please notify Wayne Hall ([wah@waynehallphotography.com](mailto: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 ( <a href="http://farnwr.org/gallery.html">http://farnwr.org/gallery.html</a> )
May&June	Barbara Peskin	Trinity Episcopal Church, Concord, MA

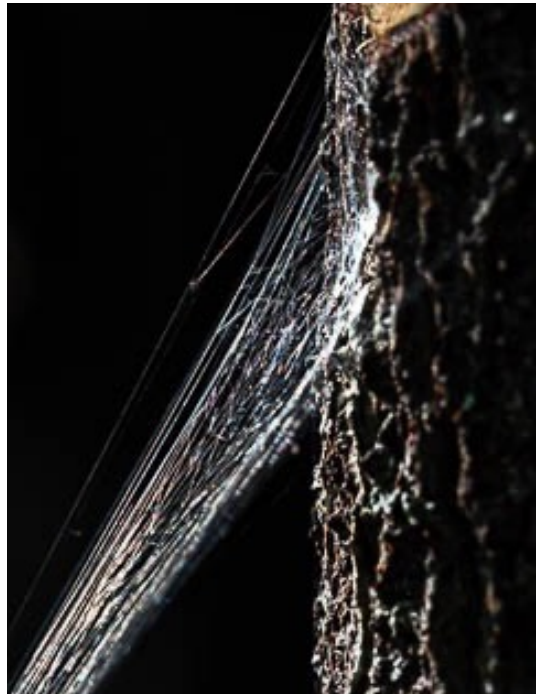


### An Invitation from your Editor

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](mailto:henkbroekman@gmail.com). Please include SVNPNP 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*



*Casting a net;  
photo, Hendrik Broekman*