

SVNP NEWSLETTER, AUGUST, 2020

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 13, MEETING

The meeting started with discussion of the pandemic, especially in relation to the resumption of in-person meetings. It seems that the consensus of caution on this matter continues unabated.

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting as soon as October, 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. In lieu of the lost opportunity for our annual public exhibit at the Wayland Public Library it has been decided to dedicate the November online meeting to a retrospective image-sharing evening with a focus on the participation of former members. Wayne has put out an email call for participation. Please respond if you are interested in participating with images. There is an invitation open to any and all for any further suggestions of activities that might appropriately help celebrate the occasion.

The Evening's Presentation: HDR Photography-Blending Brackets

Ed McGuirk presented a comprehensive discussion of high dynamic range scenes and why one might wish to dig into a box of tricks in order to photograph them. Such scenes present difficulties to capture useful information in either the highlights or shadows without clipping in the other. The classic technique was to employ a graduated neutral-density filter. Even if one's camera can just capture a scene with a few energy levels to spare at either end of the histogram, it may still be desirable, perhaps even necessary, to raise the shadows in order to communicate the sense of the scene. Do that enough and you risk making noise a problem. The digital workaround is to blend multiple exposures, from dark to bright, into one that utilizes the best results from each donor. This being the twenty-first century, of course there are apps for that.

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

First, Ed covered a stand-alone program, Photomatix, that features a simple interface (<https://www.hdrsoft.com>). He recommended this package for ease of use but cautioned that the program becomes quirky when venturing much beyond its single-click interface. Next, Ed covered Lightroom's merge to HDR feature in a bit more detail. He sees this as an equally capable option that offers to Lightroom users the ability to process a 32-bit file constructed from multiple exposures in exactly the same way as normal files. The familiarity should be comforting. (Photoshop offers a similar facility with its Merge to HDR Pro..., which allows the tone mapping to be finished in Adobe Camera Raw.)

Finally, Ed described the concepts behind exposure blending in Photoshop but didn't dwell on it, preferring instead to make the discussions of both Photomatix and Lightroom each complete enough to entice folks into giving HDR a try. From the enthusiasm evinced after the conclusion of the talk, it seems he succeeded.

Ed has graciously provided his Powerpoint slides for inspection here:

http://svnp.homestead.com/files/mcguirk_hdr_slides.pptx

Member Images

Hendrik Broekman showed some images of Comet Neowise as well as garden flowers after rain.

September Preview

We have a guest, **George Woodland**, scheduled to present a program entitled *Mongolia: Eagle Hunters and the Gobi Desert*. The photos of his of Mongolia that are discoverable on the net give promise of a striking program. I would wager this is an opportunity not to miss.

Hendrik Broekman

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UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

- Sept. 10 Special Guest, George Woodland *Mongolia: Eagle Hunters and the Gobi Desert*
- Oct. 8 TBA
- Nov. 12 An Online Celebration of SVNP's 25th Anniversary *Details to follow as planning proceeds*

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	Wayland Public Library - Raytheon Room, 5 Concord Road, Wayland, MA
May-June 2021	Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm St, Concord, MA; <i>25th Anniversary Exhibition</i>

Individual Member Exhibits

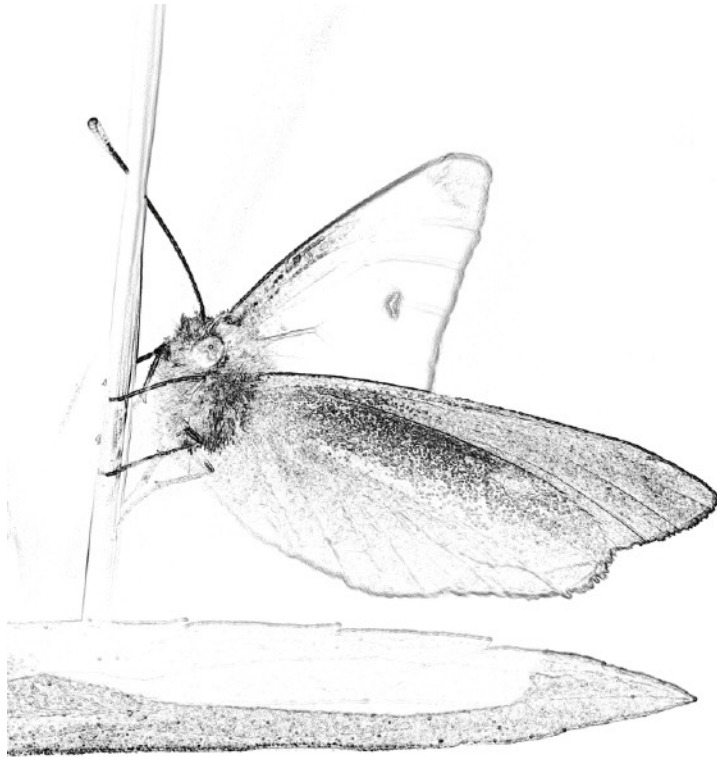
SVNP members - please notify Wayne Hall (wah@waynehallphotography.com) of your upcoming individual exhibits for posting on the SVNP website.

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>
Aug.5-Sept.24	Terri Ackerman	Emerson Hospital, 133 ORNAC, Concord, MA, Main Entrance Hallway

Nov-Dec

Terri Ackerman

Nashoba Brook Bakery, 152
Commonwealth, W. 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. 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



*Helicopter Parenting;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*