

SVNP NEWSLETTER, SEPTEMBER, 2017

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2017 MEETING

Wayne called the meeting to order. The annual show at the Wayland Public Library is currently being planned. As announced, the theme is open, but with a strong preference for subject matter dealing with Thoreau. If the majority of the images tie into the Thoreau theme, then it becomes reasonable to advertise the show as Thoreau-related and the exhibition should benefit from the Thoreau 200th anniversary buzz. So, SVNP, Walden-up! (more details below)

Call for Programs

We currently have no programs scheduled past the next, October 2017. 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.

The Evening's Presentation

Michael Milicia

Bird Photography : Insights and Inspiration

Mike's up-front admission that *there is no simple answer* was borne out in the rest of the presentation. Mike included many useful tips (not only *hows* but *whys*) on camera settings and field techniques. The concepts he covered ranged from exposure, to focus, to composition, to presentation, to lighting, and further. One would have been forgiven for thinking he was talking about photography in general, for, in the broadest sense, he was. Its just that when the subject happens to be a bird, the desiderata become that much more difficult to fulfill and the techniques and gear become proportionally more specialized.

Mike's presentational style is consistently engaging and, above all, clear. This eases listener comprehension; fatigue is just not a problem. Above all, his first-rate photos vouch for the instructional content. Mike describes his presentation as "a selection of his bird images along with commentary intended to inform, entertain, and

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inspire.” There is little doubt that those in attendance agreed that the intention was fulfilled.

If you were not fortunate enough to be at Michael’s presentation, his website, <https://www.michaelmiliciaphotography.com>, displays many of the images he showed.

Macro Workshop

As mentioned in last month’s newsletter, Ed McGuirk has offered to lead a workshop for interested members on photographing minerals at macro scale with cross-polarized lighting. The workshop will be held on Sunday, November 12, at 1:00 in the Great Room (not the Community Room) at Newbury Court. Here is a link to some examples of Ed’s work in this specialized genre:
<http://www.edmcguirkphoto.com/p588820475>.

Ed writes, “Sometime in October I will send out more detailed information about what to expect. But very briefly all you need to bring is a Compact Flash or SD card. I will have a station with my camera/macro lens/cross polarization flash/copy stand already set up, all you have to do is insert your card in my camera, create the composition that you want on the minerals, and focus manually (I can help anyone do that if necessary). Hendrik will have a similar setup so we can shoot from two stations.

“The colors in the minerals look best if they are wet, thus we need to use the cross polarization on the flash to eliminate glare on the wet minerals. This is why you do not need to bring your own camera or lens.”

Any SVNP member who is interested and has not already notified Terri Ackerman (tackerman5@hotmail.com), should do so immediately or contact Ed.

Around the Web

In case you wish to attend the macro workshop (or even if you don't) and wish to bone up on the principles of polarization, here are three websites that, between them, should help you get up to speed.

<https://www.edmundoptics.com/resources/application-notes/optics/introduction-to-polarization/>

<http://www.physicsclassroom.com/class/light/Lesson-1/Polarization>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/science/physics/light-waves/introduction-to-light-waves/v/polarization-of-light-linear-and-circular>

Member News

SVNP member Raj Das has been honored for a series of five images of some intimate and tender moments between a red fox mother and her kit. The series took the First Prize in the Professionals section in the Wildlife category of Photo District News' 2017 "Great Outdoors" contest. The photos will be featured in the October issue of the print magazine.

Here's the link to the winners gallery - http://www.shutterloveonline.com/contest_galleries/greatoutdoors/2017/#main

Betsy Moyer forwards more news from SVNP co-founder, Bud Titlow, who writes, "I know SVNP is going well – I always read each newsletter and really appreciate receiving them! Congrats to both you and Wayne for keeping it going!

"We are in the process of moving to La Jolla, CA. We have bought a house there, but it's currently being renovated. We hope to be moved by November 15. I am excited to get out to California and explore the photo opportunities there. They have a little bit of everything – sea coast, mountains, deserts, etc.

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“Our youngest daughter – Merisa – and two of our four grandchildren live there. (Our other daughter – Mariah – and her two children still live in Hamilton, MA.)

“Yes, Florida is certainly the place to be if you want to photograph birds. I now just ignore (i.e., not photograph) most birds I see here because I already have so many shots of most of them – spoonbills, herons, egrets, wood storks, shorebirds, ospreys, etc. Plus I now only shoot with a 300 mm lens – no more lugging super-telephotos around. If you want to know some superb locations to shoot birds in Florida, I'll be glad to tell you the places I've found.”

October Preview

Member Images Night Theme - Where Henry Went

As you probably know, this year is the 200th anniversary of Henry David Thoreau's birth, so let's base the evening on images of places where Thoreau walked, canoed, etc. Walden Pond, of course, is obvious. But he also spent time on the Cape, on the Concord and Merrimac Rivers, in the Maine woods, practically anywhere in Concord, and elsewhere. A little web browsing should yield lots of ideas.

Also, the following books, all written by Thoreau, are helpful:

“Walden”

“Cape Cod”

“The Maine Woods”

“A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers”

“A Yankee in Canada”

“A Walk to Wachusett”

“Canoeing in the Wilderness” (the second half of “The Maine Woods”)

Terri Ackerman recommended a recent book by Robert Thorson, *The Boatman*, as being particularly helpful in retracing Thoreau's river journeys. It is available for loan from the Minuteman Library System,

as well as for purchase at Amazon, either in print or in a Kindle edition.

Ed McGuirk contributes the following link: <http://www.mappingthoreaucountry.org/maps/>

But wait, there's more! Barbara Peskin was kind enough to mention a new, education-by-stealth, first-person video game called *Walden, a game*. On their website <https://www.waldengame.com> the creators have announced that "*Walden, a game* was honored with two awards at the Games for Change Festival in New York: Game of the Year and Most Significant Impact. Games for Change is the leading international event uniting game creators with those who believe in the positive power of digital games. Their game awards laud educational games, innovative games, and ones that provide great gameplay while improving the lives of their players. As long time participants at the conference, it is real honor for the Walden team to have been selected for these awards!"

Gateway Club presents Tony Sweet

SVNP Members may be interested in an event being hosted by the Gateway Camera club, A Day with Tony Sweet. It is scheduled for Saturday Nov. 18 from 8am to 4pm. The venue will be the Hampton Inn in Natick, MA. The flyer for the event may be found at <https://tinyurl.com/y9bgcftj>, and suggests that Tony will show you how to put the fine art into your photography.

UPCOMING SVNPN PROGRAMS

October 12, 2017 Semi-annual Member Images Night – Where
Henry Went

**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

Lower Garage Parking

Although Newbury Court wants to extend hospitality to Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers to the greatest extent possible, there is concern that the Lower Garage is being opened unnecessarily for SVNPN members on our meeting nights. Because Newbury Court is always concerned about security, if no one is using the garage, Newbury Court would prefer to keep it closed. If, however, SVNPN members use it regularly or when the weather is bad – snow, rain, etc. – the garage can be opened at those times. Please let Betsy Moyer know (bmga@aol.com) your wishes. Newbury Court will be guided by the members' responses.

SVNPN EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Group Exhibits

Ongoing Newbury Court - Community Room, 80
Deaconess Road, Concord, MA
rotating exhibit

November Wayland Public Library (Raytheon Room)

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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 Neighborhood Flowers, 5th floor, south bldg Prints and Canvases, 3rd floor, north bldg
Sep 1-Oct 31	Terri Ackerman	Emerson Hospital Rehabilitation Gallery for Photography, 310 Baker Ave., Concord, MA
Oct 2-Oct 31	Barbara Peskin	Nancy's Airfield Cafe, Boxborough, MA. Artist's Reception Sunday Oct. 15, 3-4:30pm
Oct 3-Oct 29	Vivienne Shein	"Into the Light - The Healing Power of Photography" (with 5 other members of Newton Camera Club); Betty Meyer Gallery, United Parish of Auburndale, 64 Hancock St., Auburndale, MA
October 22	Barbara Peskin	Acton-Boxboro Farmer's Market, 10am - 1pm

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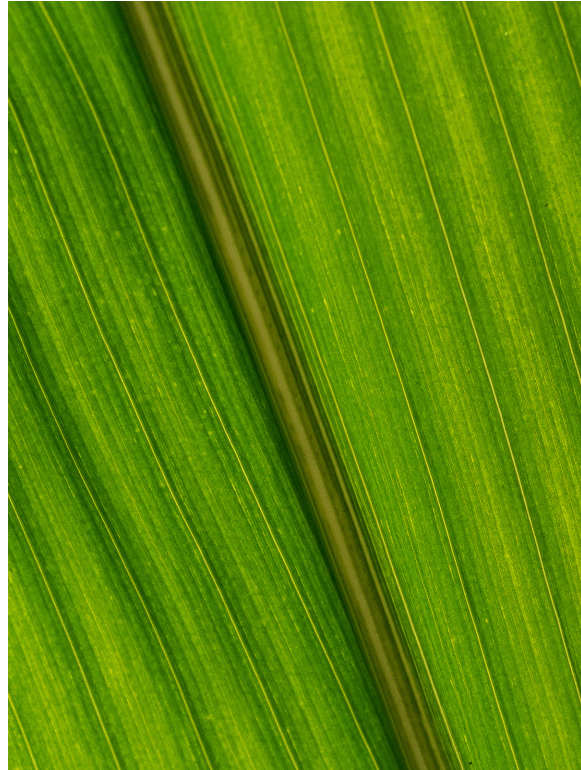
ends Nov 15	Betsy Moyer	Southgate Retirement Community Lobby, 30 Julio Drive, Shrewsbury, MA
Nov 27-Dec 27	Barbara Peskin	Lincoln Public Library, Lincoln, MA
Jan 3-Feb 28	Barbara Peskin	Cary Library, Lexington, MA., Artist's Reception Sunday Jan. 14, 2018, 1:30-3pm

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 (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 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



Corn Leaf, Backlit; Photo, Hendrik Broekman