

SVNP NEWSLETTER, OCTOBER, 2016

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10, 2016 MEETING

Wayne called the meeting to order by reminding the group that the November 10 program will be given by Hendrik Broekman on the subject of Noise and Sharpening in Lightroom and Photoshop.

Call for Programs

We currently have programs scheduled through December, 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.

Happy 21st Birthday, SVNP!

Looking around the monthly meetings, it would be evident that many of us had to wait until our twenty-first birthday to vote. That was a big deal! At least, I thought so at the time. Well, this month, while nobody was looking, Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers turned twenty-one. How time flies when you're having fun!

In October 1995 a group of local photographers, including Betsy Moyer and Budd Titlow, founded the Sudbury Valley Nature Photographers. Their shared wish to pool photographic knowledge and cooperatively to engage in activities in the service of promoting the appreciation of beauty of the world around us is still very much a hallmark of the group. Through our work, we aim to promote respect and appreciation of our natural environment as well as the importance of preserving it. More, next month...

Weather Extremes - The Evening's Presentation

The session started with several images of fog by Sue Abrahamsen. After a shot from Stow, Sue showed a pair of images taken at a family cemetery on private land in Georgia. These were followed by two very effective early morning shots of horses, backlit

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in the fog. A donkey, photographed a bit later in the last vestiges of fog, brought up the rear.

Don Sherman showed several images taken on a recent vacation trip to the Verdon Gorge in southeast France, not far from the Riviera. The gorge, with its sheer limestone walls, is popular as a tourist attraction but especially with rock climbers. It is possible to drive around the rim of the gorge but Don complained that stopping for photographic purposes was inconvenient if not impossible most of the time. We were treated to an image taken in one of the towns shot with a fisheye lens.

Ed McGuirk offered a very enjoyable slide program of images shot in temperatures of extreme cold (20 below ... or worse!). Places visited were the Gates of the Arctic National Park (auroras galore, above), Vermilion Lake in Banff National Park (with open water at 25 below thanks to hot springs) and the polar bears of Churchill Manitoba (40 below).



Aurora; Photo by Ed McGuirk

Of the snow-themed photographs offered by Hendrik Broekman, just one was not an attempt to show flying snow. Several were shot at the North Cemetery in Wayland. Most involved conversion to black and white.

Art Phipps started his offering with an image of an incoming wave shot in Northern California. He called this his "Shoot and Run Like Hell" photo. This was followed by two pictures of sailboats in fog. His image of frost on his garage window rewarded study with the resonance between the sharp tendrils of frost and the mildly out-

of-focus tree branches in the background. The final image was of the Milky Way taken in Menemsha, Martha's Vineyard – astonishing to think of skies that bright in Massachusetts!



Clouds; Photo by Mark Hopkins

On offer from Mark Hopkins were images of dramatic weather. The opening image taken from Truro of a distant storm over Massachusetts Bay involved columns of descending rain and light on a wide, flat expanse. Some fog photos followed. The next to last image of the evening was taken close to sunset at Isle au Haut and depicted a departing cloud formation

bathed in golden light (shown). The last was of a gentle segment of rainbow taken at New Harbor.

Member News

Stephen Gabeler writes, "Carolyn and I have two pieces each in the Sanctuary Exhibit at the Post Road Art Center (1 Boston Post Road E., Marlborough, MA, 01752) that will be up until Oct. 27." More info may be had at:

<http://www.postroadartcenter.com/online-store/!/Sanctuary-Exhibit-2016/c/21008060/offset%3D0%26sort%3Dnormal>

At October's meeting, which just happened to be on the evening before her retirement to Stonington, Deer Isle, Maine, Carol Walsh proposed an early-mid January group winter photo get-together in Maine around her new digs. Carol invites anyone interested in participating to contact her for details by email at clesliewalsh@hotmail.com

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New Book by Budd Titlow

Budd Titlow's new book, *Protecting the Planet: Environmental Champions from Conservation to Climate Change*, is scheduled for release on November 15. Together with his coauthor, daughter Mariah Tinger, Budd tells an inspirational story of pioneering environmentalists who raised our collective consciousness regarding nature's value as well as heroes of today who are working to secure a sustainable future. Published by Prometheus Books, the book is being marketed by Penguin/Random House and sold on Amazon. As of this writing, *Protecting the Planet* has been a regular on Amazon's "Hot New Releases in Environmental Studies," and it hasn't yet been released! Budd Titlow is a professional wetland scientist, wildlife biologist, award-winning nature photographer and writer and is also a former NANPA board member. As noted above, along with Betsy Moyer, Budd was a cofounder of SVNP in October, 1995.

Preview - Noise and Sharpening in Lightroom and Photoshop

Digital photography is about dots. Once the eye is overwhelmed with enough small dots, the dots disappear and recognizable shapes appear. The more dots that stay on message (information), the more coherent the image. Dots that don't belong in the image but have appeared from the inner working of the mechanism we call noise and we try to reduce their impact. Altering dots in order to enhance resolution we call sharpening. This presentation assumes that the overriding desire is to optimize a bucketful of dots (aka *image*) to allow them to be displayed in the largest format possible consistent with the highest level of technical excellence the dots allow. Of course, for any given image, what is possible can vary from the size of a postage stamp to a billboard. It all depends...

Lower Garage Parking

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

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 (bmgga@aol.com) your wishes. Newbury Court will be guided by the members' responses.

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SVNPN PROGRAMS

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|---------------|--|
| Nov. 10, 2016 | Hendrik Broekman – Noise and Sharpening in Lightroom and Photoshop |
| Dec. 8, 2016 | Terri Ackerman – Making Abstract Art from Nature Photos
Norm Shein – Sigma's Foveon Sensor Technology |

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

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

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.

SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Group exhibits

Ongoing	Newbury Court - Community Room, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA rotating exhibit
November 1 - 30	Raytheon Room, Wayland Public Library Meet the Artists reception Sun. Nov. 6, 2:30 - 4:30

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)
October, 2016	Barbara Peskin	Nancy's Air Field Cafe, Boxborough Rd. Stow, MA Reception Oct. 23, 3:00-4:30pm
October, 2016	Terri Ackerman	Lincoln Library, Lincoln MA
October, 2016	Terri Ackerman	Boxborough Library, Boxborough, MA - included in group show

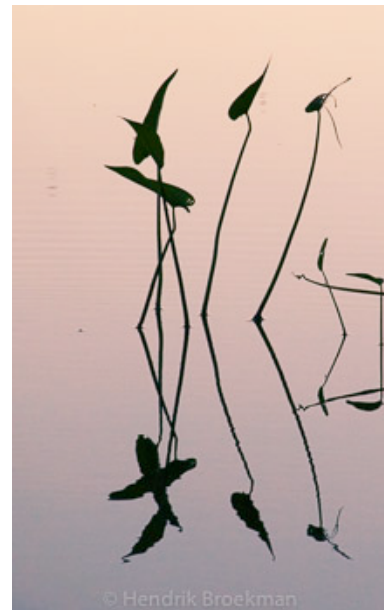
Until Oct. 27 Stephen Gabeler Sanctuary Exhibit, Post Road Art
Center, 1 Boston Post Road E.,
Marlborough MA

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 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



Im Abendrot; Hendrik Broekman, 2005