

SVNP NEWSLETTER, OCTOBER, 2019

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10, MEETING

Wayne opened the meeting with a brief discussion of the themes for the upcoming Member Images Night, one of which is shared with the annual exhibit at the Wayland Public Library. Upon closing, the November show will immediately move to Carol Walsh's church (United Parish) in Auburndale. A third exhibition opportunity, two months at Trinity Episcopal Church in Concord, has presented itself thanks to Anne Umphrey. This is tentatively set for the period May 4 - July 6, 2020. The issue of a theme has yet to be considered. Any input would, of course, be welcomed.

Hendrik Broekman discussed his proposal to devote a page (or so) from each newsletter to a single photographer. The response was positive. Please see below for an explanatory paragraph.

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting in February, 2020. 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.

The Evening's Presentation

Tony and Doris Monteiro presented an information-packed program entitled *Bird Photography - How We Do It & Where We Go*. The presentation included copious bullet lists, which covered gear, strategy, technique and locations. The Monteiros use Nikon full-frame cameras. Many, but not all, of their techniques are specific to their gear, but there are plenty more things one can do that contribute to success. They gave a cogent account of controlling exposure for birds in the sun, especially white birds or birds with prominent patches of white. Besides persistence, both in learning the gear and persistence while on-site with the birds, they especially stressed knowledge of bird behavior, whether for static birds or birds in flight.

Tony and Doris have come upon some of the locations by first looking for water in an area of interest but others have been recommended to them by other photographers they have

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encountered and chatted up. Maps helped orient viewers to the various locations, which run the gamut of uses. They go wherever the birds are to be found, whether that may be a wildlife reserve, private concession or small city park. For instance, burrowing owls have chosen to nest in a sports park that includes a heavily-used velodrome (Brian Piccolo Park, Cooper City, FL). Who knew?



Spoonbill Landing; photo, Doris Monteiro



Osprey Landing; photo, Anthony Monteiro

Throughout the presentation, the photographs they showed as examples from each of the locations were presented at about three second intervals. This is to say that the volume of very impressive bird photos quickly became astonishing. The enthusiasm of the group kept Tony and Doris on the hook for several questions afterward.

Tony and Doris have produced a sheet listing their favorite locations. It is available for download at svnp.homestead.com/files/birdinghotspots.pdf

Member Images



Nesting; photo, Nicole Mordecai

Nicole Moredcai presented several critters found around the northeast. Some were from a heron rookery in Weston, osprey seen in Wellfleet and a hawk seen at a Vermont raptor rescue facility.

Terri Ackerman recently visited the Pantanal in Brazil. She showed a half-dozen images of jaguar shot very close up



Jaguar; photo, Terri Ackerman



Woodchuck; photo, Barbara Peskin

Barbara Peskin offered a passel of critters, including some of monarch butterflies, a Northern Parula, and a woodchuck with a particularly professorial demeanor, as well as a floral and a bouquet.

Don Sherman presented a short travelogue dealing with that portion of a recent cruise around the North Sea that took him and his wife, Barbara, to, among other destinations, the Faroe Islands. The group was treated to striking scenery, well-captured. Don also offered a demonstration of some of Skylum Luminar's capabilities for toning images.



Faroe Islands; photo, Donald Sherman

Raj Das had on offer a series of quite accomplished landscapes taken very recently while moseying for two weeks around Glacier National Park as a guest in a friend's RV. Besides these, shot chiefly at the shoulders of the day, he also engaged in some night photography involving the aurora and/or the milky way.



Glacier Park Northern Lights; photo, Raj Das

Possible New Feature

Given the number of enjoyable images that are shared at meetings, I have wondered for a while why so few members take the opportunity to ask to have their efforts appear in the newsletter. I don't see much difference between sharing several images in the course of a meeting and having one or two appear in the newsletter. I have found it striking that image-rich editions have reliably elicited appreciative comments.

In this spirit I would like to propose a new monthly (or so) feature devoted to one or two images (recently shared or not) by a single photographer to be displayed in a larger format than I have allowed before now. It would be even more useful if the image(s) were accompanied by text describing some aspect of the image the photographer finds meaningful. It could be anything from a sentence to a paragraph or two, from a discussion of technique to poetry. the field is open. My ground rule would be this; my task would be limited to page layout and the photographer would be responsible for providing titles and text.

I invite any opinions about the scheme, its advisability, how it might be organized or how likely you might be to participate in it. I may be contacted at henkbroekman@gmail.com.

Around the Web

You may not have noticed this item: The NY Times published an article dealing with the harvesting of images of faces from Flickr for testing facial recognition software.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/10/11/technology/flickr-facial-recognition.html?action=click&module=Well&pgtype=Homepage§ion=Technology>

The tinyurl below is provided for those who may be reading this in print.

<https://preview.tinyurl.com/y5gxhn35>

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

November Preview

Our next more-or-less-semiannual member images night will be held at our Nov. 14 meeting. Two themes have been selected – choose one or both: either “Nature Leads Us In” (see above) or “Surprises” – images that turned out to be much more/better than you expected. Or, as our *Great Paraphraser*, Bob Cooke, puts it – “Ain’t you glad you went, when you expected nothin’?” As usual, please bring up to five images (either as stand-alone photos or before and after post-processing pairs) for discussion.

Members Please Note – The display in the Great Room has the Full HD resolution of 1920 (w) x 1280 (h). If you have been in the habit of sizing your images to the lower resolution of the group’s projector, please be aware that continuing to do so (or reusing older versions) may result in suboptimal presentation. Also, for future presenters, connection to the display is via HDMI which accommodates both video and audio.

UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

- Nov. 14, 2019 Semi-Annual Member Image Night - Two
 themes: *Nature Leads Us In* or *Surprises*
- Dec 12, 2019 Susanna Kamon - *Massachusetts and New
 Hampshire Wildlife by Trail Camera, Pt. II*
- Jan. 9, 2020 Hendrik Broekman - *Touring the Galápagos, Pt.
 II*

Please Note - All meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the
month, at 7:00 pm, at our new location:

Great Room, Newbury Court
100 Newbury Court, Concord, MA

Please Note Further - 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

SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Group Exhibits

Ongoing/ On Hiatus	Newbury Court - Community Room, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA rotating exhibit
Nov 1-30	Wayland Public Library, 5 Concord Rd., Wayland, MA (Raytheon Room) Reception Sunday, Nov. 3, 2:30-4:30pm
December	Betty Meyer Gallery, United Parish of Auburndale, 64 Hancock St., Auburndale (Newton), MA (Continuation of the show immediately above)
May 4 - Jul 6, 2020	Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm St, Concord, MA

Individual Member Exhibits

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

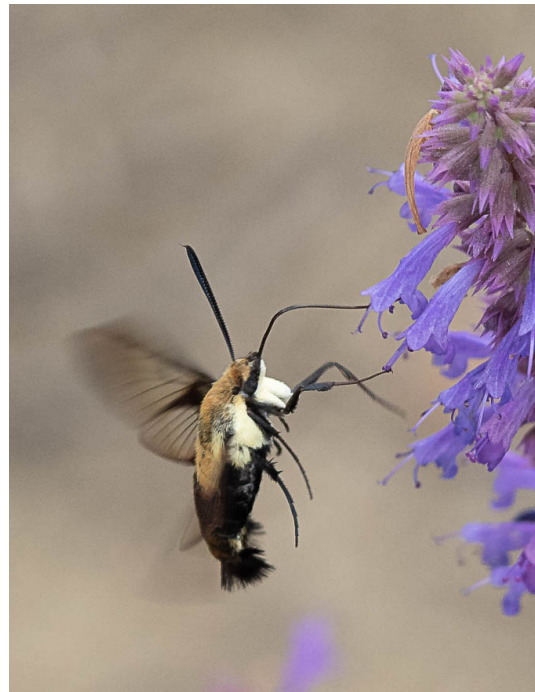
Date	Member	Exhibit Location
Ongoing	Marijke Holtrop	Online Exhibit on the website of the Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge (http://farnwr.org/gallery.html)
Ongoing	Betsy Moyer	Newbury Court Senior Living, Concord MA Neighborhood Flowers, 5th floor, south bldg
October	Barbara Peskin	Nancy's Air Field Cafe, Boxborough Road, Stow, 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



*Hummingbird Hawk Moth;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*