

SVNP NEWSLETTER, OCTOBER, 2022

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13 MEETING

The group wish to institute a hybrid process that would allow in-person as well as electronic attendance was frustrated this meeting, which occurred exclusively on Zoom. The form that November's meeting, Member Images Night, will take remains to be determined.

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting as soon as December, 2022. 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.

October Presentation – Hendrik and Mai-Lan Broekman

“Gunkholing” is loosely defined as “taking your boat where bigger boats can't go”. In May of 2022, Hendrik and Mai-Lan, along with seven other adventurous souls, did exactly that with a seven-day cruise from Petersburg to Juneau along Alaska's Inside Passage. This was the vessel's first Alaska cruise of the season, and all of it was on the sheltered waters of the Inside Passage.

The vessel for the voyage was M/V Catalyst, built as a research vessel in 1932, and still driven by the original engine! It carried a crew of four, including a naturalist and a cook. Accommodations were a tad tight (only one person could stand up in a “stateroom” at a time.)

Hendrik and Mai's photographs, plus a few short videos, took us day by day through the week, with spectacular scenery, flora and fauna. There were plenty of opportunities for hiking and kayaking excursions (what, no snorkeling???).

At this time of year, the deciduous trees were just beginning to leaf out, but there were wildflowers aplenty. “Ports of call”, using the term somewhat loosely (anchorage might be a better term), included Scenery Cove, Donkey Bay, Brother Islands, Endicott Arm, Twin Meadows, Dawes Glacier, Ford's Terror, Sanford Cove, and Taku Harbor.

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There were terrific photographs of Arctic terns, white wing scoters, Barrows goldeneyes, loons, cormorants, bald eagles, belted kingfishers, harlequin ducks, and others. Many of these were action shots, showing off the ability of Hendrik's Olympus system to capture them.

Marine fauna included orcas, humpbacks, sea otters, seals, sea lions, a purple shore crab, starfish, and porpoises. Land-based wildlife included mink and a banana slug (not cute...). No bears except for one very far away, although this is big bear country.

In the flora category, there were images of bunchberry, devil's club, giant skunk cabbage, chocolate lily (popular among bears), deer heart, bog laurel, marsh marigold, mosses, and "fairy barf" (I'm not making this up and no, I don't know the Latin name) lichen.

Rainforests, waterfalls, glaciers (receding, unfortunately), and lots of mountains, inlets, coves, etc. made up the collection of more general landscape images, really giving the viewer a great sense of place.

All in all it was an inspiring and enjoyable evening sharing a unique and fascinating trip, beautifully photographed and narrated!

Wayne Hall

November Preview

November brings another of our semi-annual Member Images Nights. The theme has been announced as Forests and Water. We all know that the care of the earth's forest and water resources are critical in dealing with climate change.

The usual process will apply: up to five images per participant, with before-and-after-postprocessing 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.

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Member Images

Jean Fain displayed five images, some taken with a new camera. A photo taken at Assabet NWR combined the oranges of fall colors with the blue of a clear sky and its darker, richer reflection in a still pond with dead trees. Lots to look at. A photo taken at Damon Mill involved reflections of another sort. Two images of fallen leaves, one a maple leaf floating on the water surface, the other a backlit oak leaf in grass, followed. Finally, Jean offered a double exposure of her cat superimposed against a large cloud formation which suggested an animal of heroic proportions. This was produced with the help of **Nicole Mordecai**. On the subject of moving on from solely using a smartphone as well as widening her repertory of skills, Jean enthused, "I'm learning up a storm."

Terri Ackerman showed a series of photographs taken on a recent trip to the American red rock country. The first was of some boulders, the shapes of which could be interpreted as animals. After that was a series shot at Monument Valley largely of both West and East Mitten Buttes, first at sunset and then before sunrise. The weather cooperated in both instances. Finally Terri offered a fine photo shot at Antelope Canyon of a subject that is well away from the usual imagery we have become used to.

Nicole Mordecai brought photos taken both on the East and West coasts of the continent. She opened with two images of a black bear near the Outer Banks of North Carolina. It turns out that a very large concentration of Black Bears lives at the Alligator River Wildlife Refuge. Nicole followed with two photos taken at East Coast fish ladders. One, shot in the center of Winchester, MA (!), showed an interaction between a gull and a night heron. Then, from a tour at Butchart Gardens in Victoria, B.C., we had some lovely closeups. Nicole finished the set with a fun image of the B.C. Capitol Building at dusk, lit up along with a water display.

Member News

Jean Fain passes along the information that our guest presenter for September, Suzanne Rèvy, will be sharing an exhibit at the Concord Free Public Library (129 Main St., Concord, MA) for the month of November. A reception will be held on November 12 from 1-4pm.

Barbara Peskin will have some pieces in an exhibit/reception given by the group Project One Million Birds at the Clark Gallery in Lincoln, MA. The date given is Sunday, October 23, 2022 and the time is 1-3pm. More information about the group may be found at

onemillionbirds.org

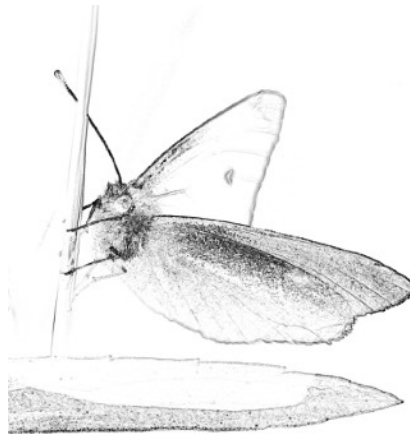
Around the Web

I have stumbled upon yet another fine British wildlife photographer, Mike Lane, producing interesting and instructive videos for YouTube. One that caught my eye involves diving gannets captured in slow motion.

<https://youtu.be/WawpAMoUr0o>

In another, Mr. Lane extolls the virtues of photographing birds from a hide. It boils down to wait and see what turns up.

<https://youtu.be/m5fXadCTAIk>



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UPCOMING SVNP PROGRAMS

November 10 Semi-annual Member Images Night

December 8 TBA

Please Note - All meetings are held on the 2nd 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



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SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

Group Exhibits

Ongoing/ On Hiatus	Newbury Court - Community Room, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA rotating exhibit
December, 2022	Wayland Public Library - Raytheon Room, 5 Concord Road, Wayland, MA
January, 2023	Betty Meyer Gallery, United Parish of Auburndale, 64 Hancock St., Auburndale (Newton), MA (Continuation of the show immediately above)

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
October, 2022	Wayne Hall	Wayland Public Library, Foyer, 5 Concord Road, Wayland, MA <i>A Time for Reflection</i>

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



*Delicacy, thy name is Muskrat;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*