

SVNP NEWSLETTER, NOVEMBER, 2024

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 14 MEETING

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting as soon as February, 2025. 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 of someone to recommend.

This meeting was held in person at Newbury Court.

The Evening's Presentation - Nancy Wright

Guest speaker **Nancy Szostak Wright** presented the program *Clicking with Owls* at Newbury Court in the Great Room. The meeting was also streamed to Zoom. A recording was made and Wayne has sent the link around by email. The hybrid nature of the meeting seems to have caused no problems, suggesting that Gabe has managed to achieve a truce with the room's revised audio system.

Since she took up photography seriously in the 20-teens, Nancy Wright has become something of an owl specialist. Her nicely designed presentation was full of detailed information that any aspiring owl photographer would want to know about. Nancy covered her gear, some field craft, some tips, as well as sharing some locations that owls tend to frequent. One fascinating display was physical and passed around the room-baggies containing owl pellets. Nancy had also dissected a pellet and photographed an arrangement of the bones rejected by the owl's digestive tract. From a single barred owl pellet she found several small mammal mandibles.

The presentation proceeded at a leisurely pace which aided comprehension. There was a high level of interaction in the room, which was hardly surprising given the general fascination with the subject. All questions were answered to the extent Nancy had the knowledge to hand. Nancy proposed gathering for a group owl prowl early in the new year, once territories and nests have been established (and found.). This suggestion proved to be very popular. It might not be difficult to arrange, either, since Nancy signed on to the group that evening. Welcome, Nancy!

<http://www.svnpweb.com/>

Annual Exhibit

Our group's annual exhibit has been mounted at Goodnow Library in Sudbury. There are thirty-three lovely images to savor. In lieu of an opening reception, the exhibitors have agreed to put on a celebratory get-together on Sunday, December 22 between 2:00pm and 4:00pm. Of course all members and their guests are welcome to share in the fun and see the show. So, join the exhibitors with nibbles in hand—or not.

Member News

Bob Cooke announced that he is expecting to supervise a come-one-come-all exhibit in February, 2025, for members of SVNP and the Assabet Camera Club at the Maynard Public Library. For details, please contact Bob at ikabodd@comcast.net.

Around the Web

Apropos of wildlife photography, here are a few videos I have recently enjoyed.

I ran across a fine video, *Wildlife Photography in Stealth Mode - 5 days at work with pro photographer*, by the Danish photographer and videographer; Morten Hilmer, that speaks to the particular concerns of committed wildlife photographers. It concerns Hilmer's efforts to photograph a local population of Red Deer during the rut. Needless to say, the wildlife encounters he is pursuing aren't a walk in the park. At a length of 54:20, it's also for committed viewers. Nevertheless, I found it engrossing.

<https://youtu.be/6yiJscMxIy8>

What to expect if you encounter a wolf, put out by the Oregon Department of Wildlife (2:00), documents a chance encounter of a department intern with a wolf which suggests that what ensues is, in fact, the most likely outcome. Trigger warning: the outcome is benign.

<https://youtu.be/r76GJDP0uWQ>

<http://www.svnpweb.com/>

The photographer Andy Parkinson, who shoots for NatGeo, among others, put down some of his tips in this video tutorial (11:27), *Animal Portraits with IMPACT!*

<https://youtu.be/ZFbOTEmCI74>

From out of left field, and with a refreshing goose-centric perspective, comes this video by Karsten Wall, *Modern Goose* (15:17), which I spotted in the New York Times opinion section. In his written introduction the author writes, "As an editor who often works in this genre, I've always had the desire to create a more contemplative and authentic film about a wild animal's struggle for survival. Here, I tried my best to remove my human perspective from the story and see the world through the eyes of an urban Canada goose." For those who have no easy way to penetrate the NYTimes' paywall, I suspect there are also other outlets. It's well worth watching!

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/09/17/opinion/canada-goose-nature-documentary.html>

In a bit of serendipity, thinking back to Jean Fain's Banff adventure, The New Yorker has published an article, *Wild Side* by Paige Williams, that reports on the developing conflict between the Human and Ursine inhabitants that now call the environs of Lake Tahoe their home. It's an interesting, unsettling read, one that the Tahoe Visitor's Bureau likely will give little airing.

<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2024/12/02/lake-tahoes-bear-boom>

December Preview

Hendrik & Mai-Lan Broekman traveled this year to Alaska for a small boat cruise to Glacier Bay. The head of Glacier Bay currently lies 85 miles from its mouth on Icy Strait. This long fjord was all glacier projecting well out into Icy Strait as late as the birth of our nation. Now, this dynamic stretch of water (protected by the U.S. Park Service) is home to many animal species, among which seen were whales, bears, birds, sea lions and more sea otters than you can shake a stick at. The land that bounds it shows progressively clearer evidence of its glacial past as one travels from the mouth to the head.

<http://www.svnpweb.com/>

Upcoming SVNPN Programs

December 12 H Hendrik Broekman *Glacier Bay by Small Boat*

January 9, 2025 Z *Semi-annual Member Images
Night - Dominant Color*

February 13 TBA

*N=Live at Newbury Court Only; Z=Zoom Only; H=Hybrid

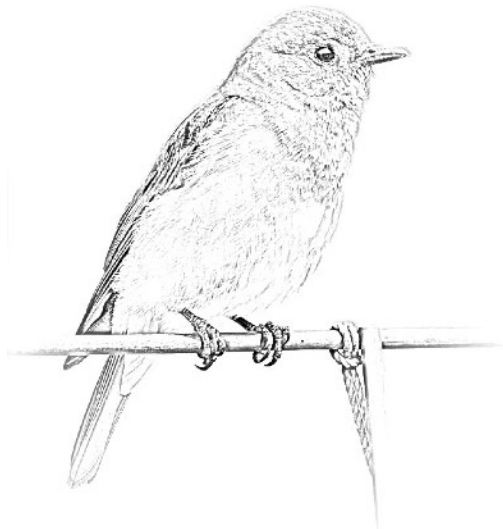
Please Note - All meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of the month, at 7:00 pm, either via Zoom or at our location (or both):

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 no less than 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



<http://www.svnpweb.com/>

SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

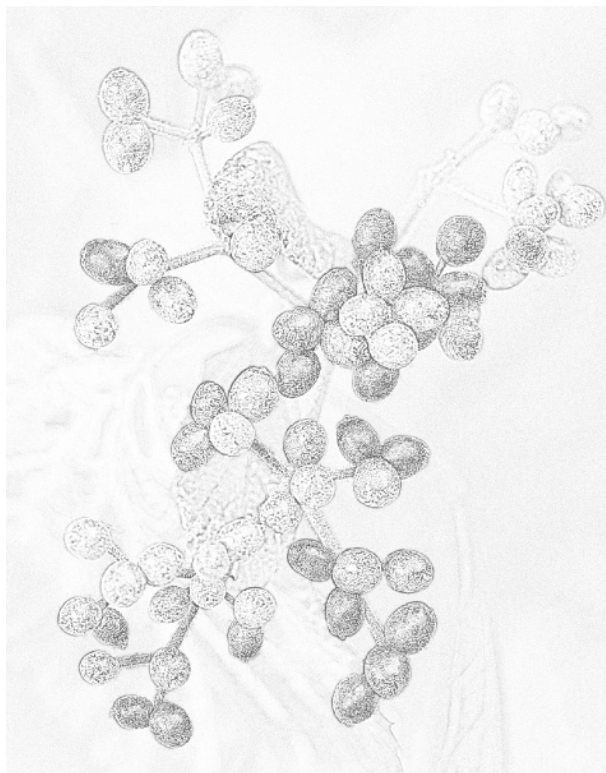
Group Exhibits

- December, 2024 Goodnow Library, 21 Concord Rd., Sudbury
MA
- April, 2025 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
------	--------	------------------



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



*Red Panda, Jardin des Plantes, Paris;
photo, Hendrik Broekman*