

# SVNP NEWSLETTER, DECEMBER, 2016

## INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 8, 2016 MEETING

Wayne called the meeting to order and announced a rather full order of programs, reaching to April. Wayne invited members to congratulate members Terri Ackerman and Joan Chasan on the inclusion of an image each in the 2017 Town Planner. Wayne mentioned the current Sudbury Art Association Holiday Market (to be found at 339 Boston Post Road, Sudbury, until 12/24). Member Terri Ackerman has material in the sale.

Betsy Moyer recommended to the group's attention an exhibition now lining the halls at Newbury Court of work by residents (19) and staff (9) of the institution. SVNP members Gene Brockington, Betsy Moyer and Mark Hopkins are among the contributors to the show.

### **Annual November Exhibit**

The annual exhibit at the Wayland Public Library was generally regarded an artistic success. Unfortunately, access to the show was diminished by the drainage mitigation project that made attendance much less pleasant and easy than usual. Some of the show continues on display due to the last minute withdrawal of the scheduled December exhibitor. Members with photographs up are reminded that December 30 is the final date and that attention should be paid to closing time, as well.

### **Call for Programs**

We currently have programs scheduled through April, 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](mailto:wah@waynehallphotography.com)) if you are willing to give a presentation yourself or if you know someone to recommend.

## Happy 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday, SVNP!

*Last month we offered the first installment in Betsy Moyer's memoir of the group. This month we have the second. The conclusion will appear next month:*

In the early days our monthly meetings consisted of a short technical presentation as well as a longer program, often of a location that boasted a particularly fine stand of lupines in the spring or great color in the fall. Our meetings have, since the beginning, ended in what we call "member sharing," in which members show several examples of their work. By group custom, comments by other members have been limited pretty much to constructive observations or praise. While criticisms have generally not been offered unless asked for, it is also true that when the floor is opened images will often provoke spirited discussion.

We have occasionally invited professional photographers to give lectures and to critique our works. In addition we organized two three-part slide/lecture series, the first in 1998 on the subject of "Developing the Artistic Eye," with guest speakers including an artist, an art historian, and Mark Wilson, writer and photographer for the Boston Globe. The second, in 2001, was on the subject of "The World Around Us." Our speakers included Les Campbell, photographer/historian of the Quabbin Reservoir; Paul Rezendes, landscape photographer; and Lindsey Brown, photographer specializing in "Images from My Back Yard." The lectures, held in the Wayland Town Building, were very successful and drew large audiences from surrounding communities.

At the turn of the millennium all our members had started out as film photographers; digital photography was a thing of the future. Now very few people are shooting film. In fact, it is difficult even to find an outfit that will process film these days! This transition from film to digital photography has had a profound effect on photography as an industry, as a profession, and as a hobby. It has been a boon for the environment, since no chemicals are used in the processing of digital images; it's all in the computer. We in SVNP

have in varying degrees become familiar with and knowledgeable about various digital manipulation programs, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Elements, Lightroom, to name probably the three most popular.

*Betsy Moyer*

### **The Evening's Presentation**

The program started with Terri Ackerman speaking on the subject of abstract nature photography. Among the many approaches Terri mentioned for rendering photographs less easily identifiable and thus more abstract, perhaps the most prevalent was zooming in on details, either by a lens zoom or by cropping. Other



*Boat Wake; Terri Ackerman, 2015*

modes mentioned were defocus and "crazy mistakes." The examples offered ranged from Tierra del Fuego to the Dead Sea, from Deer Isle to Kansas City. One selection of about two-dozen photos was devoted to reflections on water, which Terri dubbed the "Monet" section. Another particularly memorable

image was of the highly distorted reflection to be seen in the wake left by a motorboat on the Sudbury (above). Toward the end Terri summed up her process and intention pretty well with the comment, "It's all really about experimenting."

For the second presentation Norm Shein gave an overview of his experience photographing with the Foveon sensor to be found in current Sigma cameras. After providing a succinct explanation of the sensor architecture, he demonstrated its qualities with a fine selection of images. In the case of one, of Nubble Light House in York, Maine, Norm showed a crop sized to the projector's native pixel dimensions.

The detail on the Keeper's Cottage thus demonstrated was exemplary. Norm showed the three Sigma/Foveon cameras he owns (all were acquired second hand for pennies on the dollar of their original prices) and explained the different uses to which he puts them. It was telling that Norm answered his own question ("Should you buy a Sigma/Foveon camera?") in a qualified negative, mentioning the special accommodations that owners must make in order to deal with the technology. Only enthusiasts need apply. Still, the images presented were first rate and all (and more) are available to be seen on Flickr:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/132245019@N04/>

### Member Images

**Ed McGuirk** showed two photos that had recent critical success. One was "Springtime in Weston" (right), and the other was of water lilies taken at Lake Waban, Wellesley (see Member News, below). He also offered several images from a trip to Zion NP this past November.



*Springtime in Weston; Ed McGuirk, 2016*

Unable to attend the last Member Images night, **Terri Ackerman** showed photographs on the theme of Extreme Weather. Pictures from the Dead Sea, Sudbury River and India were offered.

**Stephen Gabeler** showed images taken in Acadia NP this past October.

**Hendrik Broekman** offered a short series of stitched panoramas and single frames of mostly local scenes.

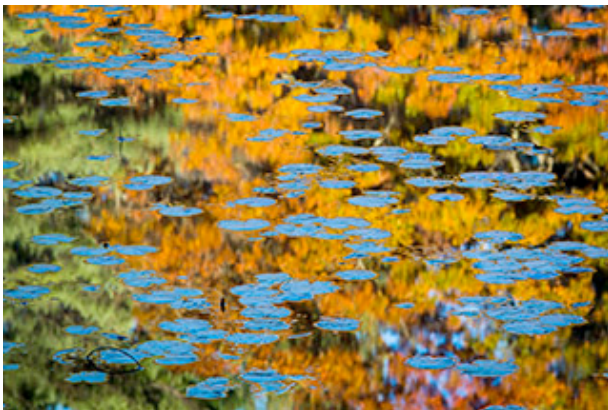
<http://svnp.homestead.com>

**Sue Abrahamsen** showed images of Bar Harbor, Maine, Whitmore Falls, Sunderland, MA, as well as a covered bridge found in New Hampshire.

**Vivienne Shein** offered several fine images (owls, rooster, bunny, praying mantis) in an attempt to prove that wildlife is indeed to be found in Newton.

Both **Bob Cooke** and **Ed McGuirk** displayed prints in the hall.

### Member News



*Lake Waban Waterlilies – Wellesley MA; Ed McGuirk, 2016*

**Ed McGuirk** writes, "In November, my image 'Springtime in New England - Weston MA' won a 'Highly Commended' Award in the contest 'USA Landscape Photographer of the Year 2016' in the 'Classic USA Landscape' category. With 20,000 entries, only 40 images won awards. The judges for this contest included well-known

photographers such as Art Wolfe, Marc Muench, and Marc Adamus. A second image of mine, 'Lake Waban Waterlilies - Wellesley MA', was selected in a group of 15 runner-up images that were printed and displayed at Photo Expo Plus, a trade show in New York City. USALPOTY used the runners-up to promote the contest in the week prior to announcing the final winners.

"Since most of the winning images were taken in the national parks of the western United States, I'm especially proud that my two images were taken right here in Massachusetts."

Ed provided links to the award winners, plus some videos showing the winners.

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

<https://www.usalpoty.com/2016-award-winners/>

<https://vimeo.com/188549388>

<https://vimeo.com/193862080>

Congratulations, Ed!

Just as a reminder, **Carol Walsh** is organizing a January group winter photo get-together in Stonington, Maine around her new retirement digs. She writes, "I want to invite anyone interested to Deer Isle the weekend of Jan. 20 for 3 days and nights of winter photographing. The local motel, BOYCE'S is a half mile away from my house and is \$59 a night. It's also winter fest that weekend with dance and fireworks and I would put on Sunday dinner at my house. Working on details. Anyone interested for details please email me. It should be fun. Bestest. Carol."

Carol's email is [clesiewalsh@hotmail.com](mailto:clesiewalsh@hotmail.com)

**Joan Chasan** will be presenting 2 images in a Gateway Camera Club group show at Morse Library in Natick. The show is to run January thru March.

### **A Call for Photographs from the Wayland Council on Aging**

Favorite Spaces/Memorable Places

Celebrating Wayland Photographers Past & Present

Sunday, February 12, 2017

2:00 – 2:30 pm: Photo gallery opens for viewing

2:30 – 3:30: Noted Wayland Photographers with Jane Sciacca

3:30 – 4:00 pm: gallery viewing & refreshments

Large Hearing Room at the Wayland Town Building

Presented by the Wayland Historical Society and the Wayland Council on Aging (COA)

<http://svnp.homestead.com>

Is there a special place in town that you have a picture of or would like to photograph? Are you interested in finding out what it looked like 10, 20, 50 or 100 years ago? We are looking for residents to share their photos with us to be included in a special exhibit and presentation highlighting Wayland photographers past and present. Please join us on February 12 as we explore favorite spaces and memorable places in Wayland. We will be exhibiting residents' photos and sharing a selection of photos from the Wayland Historical Society's Collection. Jane Sciacca will present a special program on noted Wayland Photographers. Refreshments will be provided by Minette Harrington.

If you have a photo that you would like to share, please email it to [waylandphotos@gmail.com](mailto:waylandphotos@gmail.com). You may also bring your original photo or a scanned copy to the COA. Original photos will be scanned and the original returned to you. All photos must be submitted by January 20, 2017.

### January Previews

Making Calendars - After looking at sites and programs devoted to calendar making, I couldn't find one that would let me create the design I wanted so I came up with a way to design pages using Photoshop layers. At our January meeting I will share some tips and tricks I've learned after creating calendars for several years. The calendar pages I'll make are 5x7 but the technique would work with a variety of photo sizes. People with laptops are encouraged to bring them if they want to follow along.

*Barbara Peskin*

Creating Photo Books Using *My Publisher* - I will bring samples of some of the books I've published and show step by step how it's done using the My Publisher website. Sharing digital images on line and hanging prints on the walls are great, but I also enjoy sitting down with a book in my hands to relive a trip or a family event.

*Sue Abrahamsen*

## SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING SVNPN PROGRAMS

Jan 12, 2017	Barbara Peskin - Creating Calendars Sue Abrahamsen - Creating Photo Books
Feb 9, 2017	Raj Das - subject to be announced
March 9, 2017	Member Images night - theme to be announced
April 13, 2017	Ed McGuirk - Light, Simplification and Post Processing

**Please Note - All meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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/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

<http://svnp.homestead.com>



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

## SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

### Group exhibits

Ongoing	Newbury Court - Community Room, 80 Deaconess Road, Concord, MA rotating exhibit
Until Dec. 30	Raytheon Room, Wayland Public Library

### Individual Member Exhibits

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

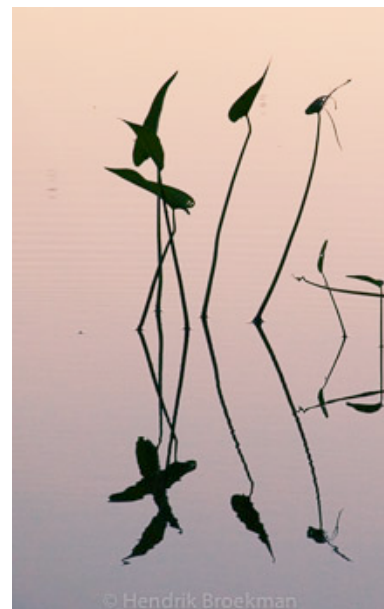
Date	Member	Exhibit Location
Ongoing	Marijke Holtrop	Online Exhibit on the website of the Friends of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge ( <a href="http://farnwr.org/gallery.html">http://farnwr.org/gallery.html</a> )
Until Dec. 31	Terri Ackerman	Boxborough Library, Boxborough, MA - included in <a href="#">group show</a>

### 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](mailto: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*