

# SVNP NEWSLETTER, JULY, 2024

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE JULY 11 MEETING

There are currently opportunities to give presentations starting as soon as September, 2024. As usual, any suggestions you may have for programs - especially of a how-to nature - would be appreciated. Please email ([wah@waynehallphotography.com](mailto: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 on the Zoom platform.

## **The Evening's Presentation - Phyllis Neufeld**

This past October (10/23) **Phyllis Neufeld** and her husband traveled with the tour company, [Hurtigruten](#), to both Patagonia and Antarctica in a single cruise. In her January program, devoted to the Antarctic portion of the trip, Phyllis had promised to talk about Patagonia sometime in the future. This program was the happy fulfillment of that I.O.U.

Chile and, more particularly, Patagonia served as the bookends to the group's Antarctic foray. The trip started with a short stay in Santiago, Chile's capitol city, far from Patagonia. The city boasts a wide variety of architecture, from classic 19th century postcolonial civic buildings to gleaming modern skyscrapers. Much of the built environment is colorfully decorated with murals of all sorts, from floral *trompe l'oeil* to fantasy scenes of indeterminate meaning with, in between, more than a smattering of everything else.

The voyage proper started in Valparaiso with embarkation on the MS Fram. The ship sailed south along the rugged Chilean coast, stopping for shore visits several places. These locales became ever more utilitarian and isolated as the road network petered out, the numbers of the latitudes increased and the population density dropped. Uncivilized and unspoiled are two sides of the same coin.

Once on board, the wildlife spotting began in earnest. The species list was long, too long to fully report. Sea birds were very well represented, as might be expected, and with cameo appearances from such flight-averse species as Magellanic Penguins and Steamer Ducks. Mammals included a Blue Whale, Chilean Dolphins and Sea

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Lions. This activity subsided somewhat once the ship reached Patagonia and entered into the maze of inland passages along, or adjacent to, the Strait of Magellan, some of which are quite narrow. There are upward of 850 named bodies of water – channels, straits, sounds, bays, etc. – in the region off the mainland. The use of Chilean pilots is required in these waters. Here the landscape became the star, culminating in sights of Corcovado and Torre de la Paine. The first part of the voyage culminated with a visit to Puerto Williams (to drop off the pilot.) The town claims to be the southernmost settlement in the world.

On the return from the Antarctic Peninsula, a visit was made to Puerto Williams (presumably to pick up the pilot) and thence to Puerto Arenas, where the return flight to the hyper-developed world started.

As before, Phyllis constructed her presentation in imitation of a photo album in which each succeeding page might have any number of related images displayed in any arrangement. One or several photos might be commented upon but there were often plenty more to which the eye could wander. These pages helped move things along and added a comforting sense of context while the occasional appearance of larger photos of a single animal added emphasis. In the time available, Phyllis gave due consideration to the social organization of the country as well as its agronomy.

The group was voluble in its appreciation of the program and its many enlightening features. It was praise well deserved.



## Member Image Sharing

**Jean Fain** continues to pursue birds and return with wonderful images. The first, of a Red-Tail Hawk, was shot from the comfort of her automotive blind...through the sun roof - clever! A striking Red-Tail in flight was next. This was followed by a very ungainly chick (destined for someone's plate) that looked as if the task of growing to match its foot might well be well-nigh impossible. A fine capture of a swan carrying at least three cygnets on its back followed. A barred owl on its perch in daylight was a surprise. Finally, Jean showed two images of tern chicks taken on the beach in West Dennis. These were flat-out cute!

**Hendrik Broekman** showed a selection of birds seen on a recent trip down the California Coast from San Francisco to Santa Cruz.

## Member News

**Barbara Peskin** writes, "I am pleased to share that I have a photography exhibit at the Weston Library, Weston MA . There are 50 photos in the exhibit including Puffins, Owls, Songbirds, Herons, a young coyote and more. The information about the exhibit is [here](#) and the dates at the Weston Library are: July 1st-31st. The exhibit is open during library hours (weekdays 9am-9pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm, Sundays noon-5pm). On Sunday, July 14th, 2pm-4pm there will be a drop-in exhibit open house with refreshments, all are welcome."

Long-time SVNP member **Marijke Holtrop** passed away last month after a long period of declining health. Her obituary can be found [here](#).



### Upcoming SVNP Programs

August 8	Z	<i>Semi-annual Member Images Night Cape Photos</i>
September 12		TBA
October 10		TBA

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

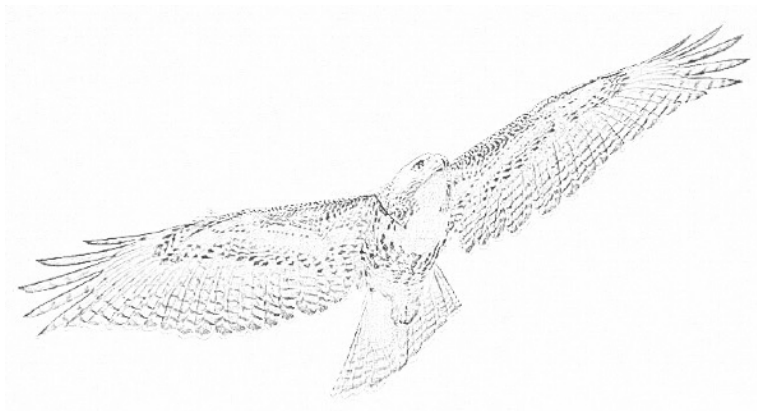
Please Note - All meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month, at 7:00 pm, either via Zoom or at our location (or both):

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://svnp.homestead.com/files/Directions_to_Newbury_Court_Great_Room.pdf)



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

# SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

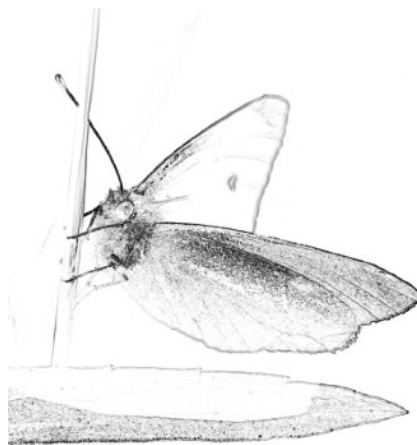
## Group Exhibits

December, 2024	Goodnow Library, 21 Concord Rd., Sudbury MA
January, 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](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> )
July, 2024	Barbara Peskin	Weston Public Library

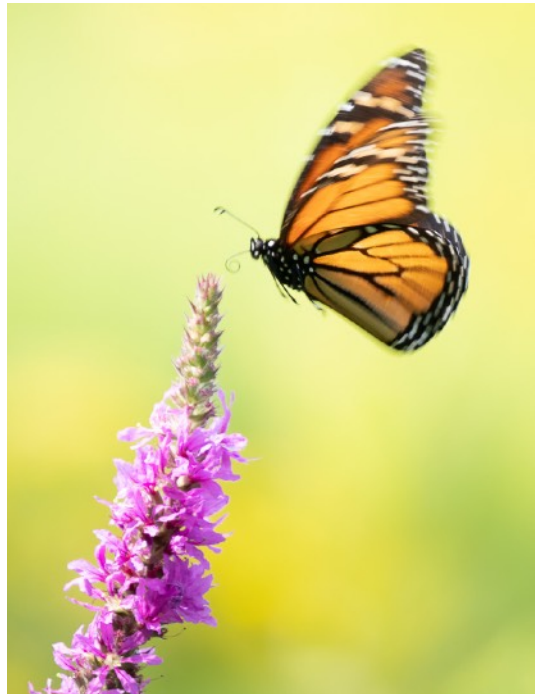


### An Invitation from your Editor

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](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 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*



*Monarch of the Field;  
photo, Hendrik Broekman*