

# SVNP NEWSLETTER, OCTOBER, 2024

INCLUDING MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 10 MEETING

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

There was some advance discussion of the upcoming group show in Sudbury and, in Auburndale (to be mounted a few months after - see Calendar), which, it has since been determined will be open-themed.

This meeting was held on the Zoom platform.

## **October Presentation - Accommodating Vacation Photography to Others**

**Jean Fain** started her presentation by asking the burning question, “Can non-photographers and photographers be good travel companions, especially if they happen to bring a dog?” This question, as dryly tongue-in-cheek as it first may seem, points up the fact that committed photographers are very often at cross purposes with their companions on hikes or even casual rambles in their use of precious time in new and exciting environments. Photography practiced as something more rigorous than casual snap-shooting can display a very different rhythm than the typical tourist’s determined, *drink-it-all-in* stroll or occasional pressing ahead to stay on schedule. Wildlife photography, in particular, can sometimes try the patience even of the photographer, who is willing to take the gamble (sometimes in close proximity to megafauna with reputations for less than complacent disposition) that spending sufficient time with a subject will bring the reward of a great photo-op and maybe a keeper or two. But think of the photographer’s companion, who is perhaps not equally invested in the process with its possibilities, and who can easily end up regretting walking around with a shutterbug for an unwelcome anchor, being bored (or freaked) out of his or her gourd.

Jean presented a case history drawn from her recent travels. Accompanied by her husband, Roy, and their Cairn Terrier, Tiffany, Jean traveled to Banff National Park in Canada on a mission to check off one of the items on her bucket list. Banff, along with its northern neighbor, Jasper NP is located in the southwest corner of Alberta, close to British Columbia, in the Canadian Rockies. The western boundary of the park lies along the continental divide. The landscape is mountainous with lakes, waterfalls, glaciers and forests all affording grand, dramatic vistas to visitors, as well as the prospect of wildlife encounters.

The park is grizzly habitat, so walks here (all accompanied by Tiffany) had an extra edge to them. Carrying bear spray is an act of prudence, not paranoia. Our heroes did have close encounters with, first, a Grizzly Bear and later with a male elk. Jean reported that on both occasions there was some family disagreement over the advisability of photography. Nevertheless, she got off some shots and had interesting images to display for her efforts. Both animals were close enough for the resulting photo to be a portrait of the critter rather than a picture with an animal in it.

These were by no means the only subjects Jean encountered that do not also appear here in New England. Jean also had a few opportunities to photograph Bighorn Sheep. The first occasion saw Jean wandering down a hill to get closer to her subjects. This may have been enough to provoke Tiffany to a barking fit so extensive it set off the car's alarm. This proved to be the first (and not the only) occasion for conflict.

There were a few other encounters with foreign species but a large part of the wildlife encountered could as easily have been found in Concord, MA. This was not the case with the landscape, which screams *mountain*. This is in contrast to our well-aged, well-mannered New England ranges, which, instead, have the good taste barely to whisper their name. The weather, on the other hand, seemed to be equally ornery as ours.

The central question provoked a good deal of discussion (around ten minutes divided between two discussions, the first halfway

through and then after the conclusion) among the attendees. The general consensus, which seems to have been arrived at independently through experience by all participants, was, absent buy-in by the companions, not to insist on the photographic component during non-photography-related travel.

Wayne had addressed subject this in a talk given some years past. He shared three pages of bullet lists of suggestions to cope with the conflicts in a way designed to keep the problems minor. His final point, to allow the companion the choice of the manner and place of the evening meal, seems a good one.

### Upcoming SVNP Programs



Nov. 14 N (H?)	Nancy Wright	<i>Photographing Owls</i>
Dec. 12	Hendrik Broekman	<i>Glacier Bay by small boat</i>
Jan. 9, 2024		Member Images Night

\*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.

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

# SVNP EXHIBIT CALENDAR

## Group Exhibits

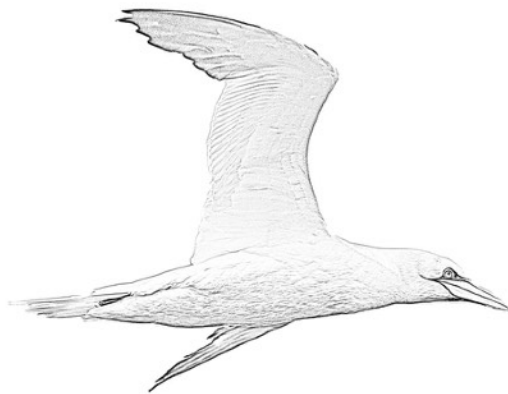
December, 2024      Goodnow Library, 21 Concord Rd., Sudbury  
MA - Open theme

April, 2025      Betty Meyer Gallery, United Parish of  
Auburndale, 64 Hancock St., Auburndale  
(Newton), MA (Re-mounting 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
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### 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*



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