

# St. Vrain Photographic Society

N G E G W G S ◁ ▷ L G E G T G T G E G R

Visit our website at: [www.go-svps.org](http://www.go-svps.org)

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November 6, 2017  
Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be **Monday, November 6, 2017, 630 PM** in the **Fireside Room**, First Congregational United Church of Christ, 9th & Francis Streets in Longmont.

**Enter through the west door on the north side of the building.**

Our meeting will start at 630 and our program begins at 7 PM. Cliff DeJong will talk on Drone Adventures. We will then have photos from the Scavenger Hunt, Photofix, and Field Trips.

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## President's Message

At our September meeting we voted on and approved the following items. Approved: By-laws: The board recommends we update Section 2 C to require approval of a majority vote of the members for expenditures exceeding \$500 which are not included in the membership approved annual budget. The current limit is \$100.

Approved: Annual budget: The board recommends we adopt an annual budget to cover expected expenses (holiday party, annual potluck, BOCO fair etc.). Committee chairs will be responsible for submitting a budget to the Board 2 weeks prior to the December meeting. Membership will vote on the budget at the December meeting.

We also discussed the need for volunteers for the following committees. Nine members signed up during that meeting. Thank you to those who indicated they are willing to help the club (shown in red below). To date we don't have anyone on the Nominating Committee and no volunteers for leadership positions and not enough volunteers to fill the positions listed below.

I am including this information again this month in hopes more folks will be inspired to commit a little time to help our club thrive. While we can use help in any of these areas what we need most is members willing to take on the leadership roles. If there are no volunteers for President, Vice-president,

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Secretary and Treasurer there will be no one to organize meetings, send out newsletters /emails or manage the finances for the coming year. Without anyone in the leadership roles we will no longer have a functioning club.

This month we will not have an outside speaker but encourage everyone to submit photos for the Photo Fix challenge, photos from any of the club field trips including those that participate in the WorldWide Photo walk along with the regular submissions for show and tell. Lynda will present the results of the scavenger hunt and share those photos.

Please follow normal naming conventions for the regular submissions.

For WWPW please submit up to 6 photos: WWPW\_TowellT\_1, WWPW\_TowellT\_2 (etc)

Nominating Committee: This is essential, we will not have a functioning club if we don't have 3 members who will present a slate of officers for 2018. The election will be held at the December meeting and new officers will begin their term in January. **NO VOLUNTEERS**

Program Committee: By default, the chair of this committee is the vice-president but we need 2-3 members to help coordinate the monthly programs. We also need 3 members to form a Judge Selection Subcommittee. This committee will be responsible for creating a pool of judges for various competitions (Annual, Scavenger Hunt, BOCO fair etc.). **Cathy Cook, Robert Clayton-willing to chair**

Exhibition/Outreach Committee: This committee will need a chair and 2-3 members to obtain venues for SVPS members to exhibit photos and contact appropriate outlets to publicize club activities. This committee now includes the Community Service Subcommittee which is responsible for supporting SVPS's participation in the BOCO fair. This subcommittee needs a chair and 4 or more members. BOCO fair: **Cathy Cook, Barb Roper**

Equipment Committee: This group is responsible for all the club equipment. Default Chair is the Media Specialist plus 2-3 members **Lynda Clayton-willing to chair**

Hospitality/Refreshment Committee: This committee will be responsible for coordinating with the venue for monthly meetings and organizing any events that include refreshments (e.g. potluck and holiday party). This will include selecting the venue / date, type of refreshment and communicating with the membership to secure head counts / participation. This committee needs a Chair and 2-3 additional members. **Lynda Clayton, Bob & Kay Daugherty**

Workshop/Field Trip Committee: In addition to the annual field trip this committee will be responsible for planning local photo walks / field trips / workshops monthly from September-June. This committee needs a Chair and 2-3 members. **Vicki Braunagel, Marion Worrell, Cliff DeJong-maybe willing to chair**

**Todd Towell**

## *Suggestions*

We welcome YOUR input on program ideas, field trips, workshops and ways we can improve the club to make it more beneficial to you, the members. Email your suggestions to **Todd Towell** : <ttcubed@gmail.com>.

Also let us know if you would be willing to lead a field trip, give a program or workshop, facilitate a discussion or become more active in the club as a committee member, an officer, or in any other way.

## *Committees and Chairpersons*

Here are the folks who have stepped forward to help keep our club running smoothly. Feel free to contact them if they can assist you in any way.

Programs - Todd Towell, Lynda Clayton

Hospitality - JoAnn and Jim Bell

Website & Digital Entries - Gerry Cragun

Equipment (projector, easel, lights, cords, etc.) - Paulette & Larry McGimsey, John Roper, Murth Murthy

Scoring Equipment - John & Barb Roper

Membership - Sallie Sprague & Cliff DeJong

Photo Exhibits/Venues - John Roper, Barb Roper & Ann Stringe

Field Trips - Diane Kaiser

County Fair Photo Exhibit - John & Barb Roper

Newsletter - Cliff DeJong (Back-up - John Roper)

A/C Judges - Todd Towell, Lynda Clayton

Workshops - Murth Murthy, Cliff DeJong, Dan Taber

Refreshments - JoAnn Bell, Ann Marie Murthy

## *PhotoFix in November*

The SPVS photofix challenge will be our program in November. You should be able to download any /all of the images from this shared google album (see link at bottom). The objective is to create something new from the existing image(s). If you are new to post processing tools you may want to select a photo and just use basic tools to make global adjustments like cropping, color, contrast etc. Or take it a step further and learn to use the brushes / filters to make local changes to specific areas of a photo. Learn to use layers and masking, remove / insert objects into a photo, combine, retouch or add special effects. The list is almost endless.

Please submit 2 images for the photofix challenge in November and be prepared to share a new technique you learned / used to create your images (you may want to make some notes while you are creating them). Use the following naming convention for these photos: P1-Name-Title; P2-Name-Title (P1-ToddTowell-Flying Umbrella; P2-ToddTowell-Landscape).

If you are using Adobe software check out the [adobe.com](https://www.adobe.com) website for lots of free tutorials. If you want to try something different search the web for post processing software (Topaz Labs has some nice options). Many of these companies offer a 30 day free trial... use that to go crazy with this assignment. Feel free to use your own or other photos as well but remember you do need to use at least one of the provided images. This year I have included land/cityscape, portraits, backgrounds and some silly miscellaneous photos to spark your imagination. Have fun, we will remind you in September and will show these in November (unless something causes a change in the schedule!).

Copy and paste this link into your browser: <https://goo.gl/photos/8NaTE5PQAwdJ579P9>  
If you have problems email me at [tcubed@gmail.com](mailto:tcubed@gmail.com)

**Todd**

## Special: “Natural Light”; Challenge “Stripes”

Photos will be show and tell.

**[PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!]**

**FOR OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS:**

For the upcoming year, there will be Show/Tell/Commentary months. Please check the newsletter and the SVPS website for more information on the schedule.

No more than a **total of four digital images** may be entered in the following categories:

- Special Topic of the Month (zero to one image)
- Challenge Topic (zero to one image)
- Open category (zero to **two** images)
- Creative (zero to one image). (You do NOT have to submit entries in all categories.)

Digital images should be no larger than 2048 in the greater dimension and should be submitted as a .JPG attachment to an email to **StVrainPhoto@Gmail.com**, no later than the **Thursday** prior to the meeting. **This is a NEW email address for submissions.** Late entries will not be accepted!

**New members are encouraged to enter photographs.**

Please submit photos each month only after receipt of the newsletter. This is because there may be changes in category definitions, where to send photos, etc.

**SVPS is on the Web!**

Check out our Website at:

[www.go-svps.org](http://www.go-svps.org)

(It's cool...)

### ***NEW*** Digital submittal rules for ***St. Vrain Photographic Society***

1. File type: jpg

Naming convention:

- Category (1**S** for Special, 2**Y** for Challenge, 3**O** for Open, and 4**U** for Creative)
- Photo title (blank spaces are allowed)
- Photographer's name (blank spaces are allowed)
- Category, photo title, and photographer's name separated by a dash (-)

General example: [Category]-[Title]-[Photographer].jpg

Specific example: 3O-Bridal Veil Falls-Ansel Adams.jpg

*Photographer Name and Photo Title together should be no more than 45 characters. DO NOT use underscore or special characters (except dash).*

3. Size: Digital images no larger than 2048 pixels in the larger dimension

4. E-mail photos to **StVrainPhoto@Gmail.com**. Submit by Thursday night before the Monday meeting. (Example: November 2nd for Nov 6th meeting). Submitters should get confirmation by Saturday evening that their photos were received. If not, please call and/or re-submit. No digital entries will be accepted after the Thursday deadline except in unusual circumstances by special arrangement with Lynda Clayton. NO digital entries will be accepted at the club meeting. For questions contact Lynda Clayton at (720)468-3085.

## October Photos

Some sample pictures from our October meeting are shown below (choosing was difficult, as there were so many great pictures!). To see all of the October results, plus important club information and other cool stuff, go to our website at [www.go-svps.org](http://www.go-svps.org).



**Marc Rockkind**  
"Plowed Field"



**Reed James**  
"First Light"



**Vicki Braunagel**  
"Glacier Bay Wolf"



**Barb Roper**  
"Horray for the  
Red, White and



**Anne Stringe**  
"Chihuly  
Reflection"

**Michael Lohr**  
"Over the  
River and  
Through the  
Woods"



## 2017/18 SVPS Meeting Schedule

*Activities begin at 6:30pm*

Your program chairs have been working hard to create informative and entertaining discussions and programs. The following events are confirmed for 2017:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opening Activity</u>	<u>Program</u>
Nov 6	Cliff DeJong-Drone Adventures	PhotoFix/Scav Hunt/Field Trips
Dec	Annual Holiday Party, Election of Officers	Beth Buglione
Jan 2018		

## 2017/18 Special & Challenge Photo Topics

A monthly photo topic AND a challenge topic help all of us stretch our photographic abilities.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Special Topic</u>	<u>Challenge Topic*</u>
Nov	Natural Light	Stripes
Dec	Street Lights	Symmetry
Jan 2018	Hobbies	Snowscapes
Feb	A Picture of a Picture	Macros
Mar	The Color Green	A Low Angle
Apr	Motion	Emotion
May	From a Distance	Upside Down

\*The Challenge Topic is to encourage us to get out and learn something new about our cameras and shooting techniques.

## Connecting with the Club

The St. Vrain Photographic Society maintains a Facebook Page, known as St Vrain Photographic Society. There is an option for you to join the group. Lynda Clayton is the administrator. You can post messages or photos here. Lynda will provide more info about this at the October meeting

## *Photography Tips and Tricks*

The idea behind this section is for members to submit your own tips and tricks you would like to share with the club members. The subject can be anything from software editing tips to camera setups for doing macro, astrophotography, portrait, Bokeh or camera use tips (brand and model specific with enough detail for others to follow along step by step) . Please send your submissions each month to me, Todd Towell, at <ttcubed@gmail.com>, and I will try to get all of them included each month

**Todd Towell**

### *Setting Your Focus Points*

In my photography journey, I have found some settings that work for me and let me get more consistent, better photos. I was photographing black bears in Canada several years ago and got the image on the right. The bear was there for just an instant and the rangers were telling us to move out, so I just quickly snapped. Nice image, until you look at it closer. The flower is in focus; the bear is not! Geesh!



What happened is that the camera looked at its active focus points and selected the point closest. This was the flower and not the bear. I experienced this several other times when the camera would focus on a closer element in the picture and not on the subject that I intended.

The solution was far easier than I thought: I set my camera to focus on the center point of the viewfinder. It is a menu option for Canon; I don't know how other cameras set this. With the single point focus selected, I can now put the item I want in focus (like the eye of a bear) in the center of the viewfinder and press the shutter down part way. Holding the shutter partly down, I then can recompose and then take the photo. You can also move the focus point around in the viewfinder ahead of time, if you will not have much time when taking the photo. For example, when waiting for whales to dive, I set the focus point as low in the viewfinder as possible, then I could focus on the whale's tail and snap the photo, all in one step.

It seems like a waste, since my camera (Canon 5D Mark 3) has 61 focus points. But, with single point focusing, I have much more control. I have found a significant increase in images that are focused on my intended subject.

I should point out that this works well for a relatively fixed scene, using one-shot auto focus. For moving subjects, I set the focus mode to AI Servo and the focus points to the center point plus the surrounding four points. I do this since it is easier to find a flying bird or a running grandchild with the center five points. On occasion, I will set this to the full 61 focus points if I am having a difficult time finding the bird and there are no closer items for the focus to lock onto.

**Cliff DeJong**

## *Workshops and Other Opportunities*

### *Compass Bank Display*

To display framed photos at Compass Bank, please contact **John Roper** at <jmroper2@comcast.net>. Photos may be left for one or two months and may be offered for sale if a price is included.