

ST VRAIN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

December, 2020



WELCOME!

members, *new* members, guests



President’s Message

Well, we have almost made it to the end of 2020. I am hopeful that 2021 will see an end to this pandemic and that we will be able to start meeting in person again. We have done a few field trips and had several good Zoom on line meetings. Some say that normality is overrated; I want it!!

There will be election of officers at our December meeting, and we have three candidates that have volunteered to lead our club. Greg Holden will run for President, Leslie Larson has stepped up as a candidate for Treasurer and Darcy Johnson will continue to serve this next year. Jack Cornils and I have decided to step down, so we still need another member to step up. Please consider helping us!!

I have really missed being able to travel and going to workshops, even local ones. Rocky Mountain National Park was not open due to fires or available with reservations only for much of the summer. I am happy that we have stayed safe, but I have not been able to take photographs as usual. I got a new camera and have spent quite a bit of time and effort learning about it. There are lots of birds in Colorado! Even before Bob Dean’s talk last month, I started to stalk our local birds and have had a lot of fun. A friend and I went to Denver for cityscapes at night. I have a new puppy (in April), which has given me a (fast moving) subject. So while I miss the travel and photo ops from that, there are still opportunities around.

At our December Zoom meeting, after election of officers, Greg Holden will be our guest speaker. He will talk on “Learning to See in Black and White”. Our monthly photos will include Frozen (Special) and Panorama (Challenge), as well as Open and Creative topics. As usual, I always look forward to seeing the creations of this club and their creativity!!

Cliff DeJong
SVPS President



NEXT MEETING:
December’s member meeting will be held online. Look for more information in the President’s Message .

NO in-person meeting for December at the First United Congregational Church of Christ ♦ 1500 9th Ave, Longmont, CO 80501 (*the corner of 9th and Francis -enter from the Northwest door*) ♦ Fireside Room.

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

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HELPFUL LINKS AND INFORMATION

Email: stvrainphoto@gmail.com

Club Website: www.go-svps.com

Affiliations:



2020 SVPS Board

President: Cliff DeJong cliffdejong@gmail.com

Vice-President: Greg Holden gholden@imagesunderfoot.com

Secretary: Darcy Johnson johnsonda111@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jack Cornils jcc55@frii.com

DEADLINE for the December NEWSLETTER - Sunday, December 13 email photos and news items to: Darcy Johnson johnsonda111@gmail.com

◆ Cover Photo ◆ Ultralights John Roper

2020 Upcoming PROGRAM SCHEDULE and PHOTO TOPICS

(Due to COVID-19, monthly programs are subject to change. This section is updated monthly.)

December 7th at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom
Officer Elections for 2021
Greg Holden - Learning to See in B&W
Special - Frozen
Challenge - Panorama

While we won't have a Holiday Party this year, we can celebrate by each having a drink available for a toast or two during the December meeting.



Planning Ahead PROGRAM SCHEDULE/PHOTO TOPICS January 4, 2021

Special - Holiday Moments
Challenge - Black & White



Hiking the Dunes ◆ Reed James

In today's digital world, where a camera is as close as your phone, it is easy to capture vivid color images of all life's events. However, pick up any magazine or book, follow any popular photographer on-line, or walk through any gallery and you will still see many black & white images. Why are black & white still relevant in our color world?

In his upcoming presentation, Greg Holden will explain why B&W images are not only still relevant, but often the better choice for showcasing the strengths of your images. While showing side-by-side color and B&W versions of his images, Greg will demonstrate how removing color from an image forces the viewer to focus on the shapes, lines and lighting in the image.

Greg will discuss how to train your eyes to look past the color of things and instead focus on shapes and light. He will discuss how he searches scenes for interesting shadows, textures and patterns and pre-visualizes what the black & white conversion will look like.



Lenticular ♦ Leslie Larson

Visual Pursuits

SVPS uses Visual Pursuits to enter photographs for PSA and monthly club shows /competitions. If you need any assistance in setting up your Visual Pursuits account, contact Elaine Hoffman at elaine@gokiridesigns.com.

Tell Us Your Good News?

Help inspire fellow members by letting us know if you sold an image, are showing your photography somewhere, got accepted into and/or have been awarded top honors in a juried exhibition. Email any photographic celebrations and/or announcements to johnsonda111@gmail.com. Deadline is December 13 for the next newsletter.



Fly By ♦ Cliff DeJong

PSA Interclub Projected Images Division (PID) Competition

The Nov 2020 club PID contest had 22 entries from 11 artists and 18 club members cast 87 votes.

The 6 club winners are:

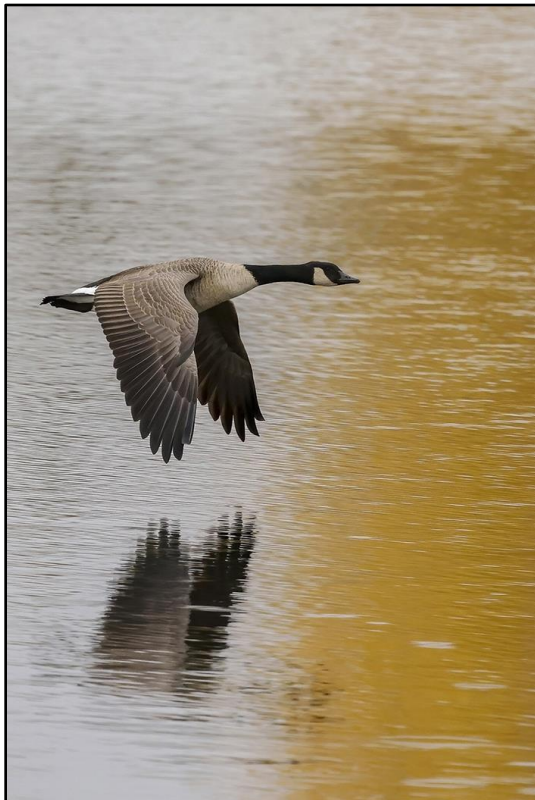
- Ultralights (John Roper) with 13 votes,
- Tri-colored Heron Coming In (Vicki Braunagel) with 11 votes,
- A Chase (Nancy Loving) with 7 votes,
- On the Wing (Cliff DeJong) with 7 votes,
- Wolf (Patricia Jarvis) with 5 votes and
- Fall Color (Barb Roper) with 5 votes.



Nancy's 2nd photo (Glee) also received 5 votes, but was dropped because her other photo ranked higher. All 6 were successfully submitted to the PSA Interclub Nov. 2020 competition (with great thanks to Elaine for her help!).

Reed James
SVPS PSA Representative

Ultralights ♦ John Roper



On the Wing ♦ Cliff DeJong



Tri-Colored Heron Coming In ♦ Vicki Braunagel



A Chase ♦ Nancy Loving



Fall Color ♦ Barb Roper



Wolf ♦ Patricia Jarvis

2021 Membership Dues

Our membership year ends in December. In 2020, after initially cancelling meetings in the springtime, we have held monthly meetings via Zoom. We offered several field trip opportunities and put out great newsletters all year. The year has been fulfilling in ways, but it has fallen short of our usual year. Consequently, the SVPS Board has decided to extend membership of current members (as of December) throughout 2021, with **no dues payable in 2021.**

For those of you that are not current members, dues are payable to the Treasurer, Jack Cornils, 823 Snowberry St, Longmont CO 80503. Jack will step down at the end of December, and the new treasurer will be announced at the December meeting and will be in the January newsletter. Dues are \$25 for an individual, \$40 for couples, and \$15 with a student ID.

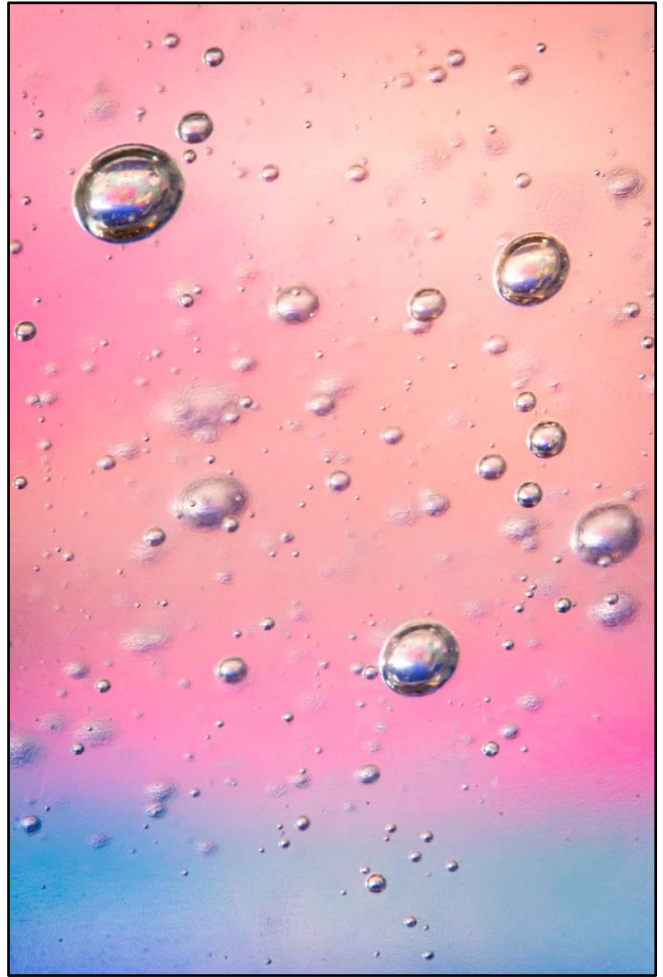
TIPS & TECHNIQUES

Indoor Photo Ideas for Winter

By Greg Holden

As the weather gets colder and the wind blustery, I am often discouraged from photographing outside. Since I still want to create interesting images, I turn to making tabletop macro photos from the comfort of my home. The other day, I noticed that our bottle of hand sanitizer, a common site in today's pandemic society, had some interesting looking air bubbles in it. I set up the bottle in front of my camera so I could shoot through the clear bottle and get multiple depths of bubbles. I played around with a few lighting options and ultimately settled on side light from a window, combined with backlighting from a studio light. To add some color to the scene I placed a piece of colorful holiday wrapping paper over my light. I chose paper that was semi-translucent to allow light to shine through the paper and 'project' the colors onto the bottle rather than relying only of reflected light. Then I positioned the paper-covered light far enough behind my bottle so that the camera focus would not register any of the details of the design. This was aided by the inherent shallow depth of field of my 105 mm macro lens, even though I took the photos at an aperture of $f/22$.

Try this out and share your results on the club Facebook page or at our next meeting. Instead of wrapping paper, you could also use brightly colored scarfs or other translucent material. If you don't have a bubble-filled bottle at home, check out bottles of soap or shampoo at your local drug store—I'm sure you'll get interesting stares from the other shoppers as you examine the bottles looking for the one with the best bubbles!





Irish Dolmen
Elaine Hoffman

SVPS Meetings/Events

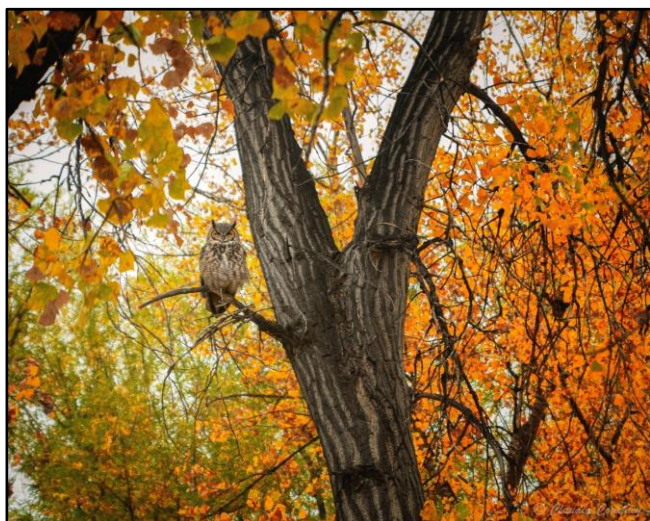
The **Monday, December 7th meeting will be held online starting at 6:30 pm.** Please join us. Look for more information on what will be happening at the December meeting in the President's Message on page 2, in the Program Schedule and Photo Topics on page 3, and in an email on how to connect to Zoom distributed before the meeting. There will be **NO in person meeting** held at the First United Congregational Church of Christ in December.



The health and safety of SVPS members is of primary importance to the SVPS Board. Should the Board need to cancel meetings and/or events due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, an email to all members will be distributed at least one week in advance. The newsletter, Facebook and Meet-up sites will also be updated as appropriate.



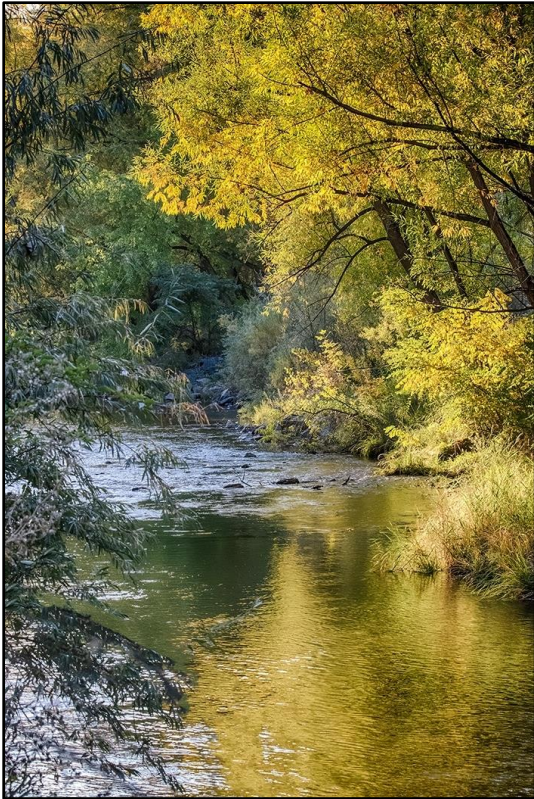
Angry Clouds ◆ Nancy Loving



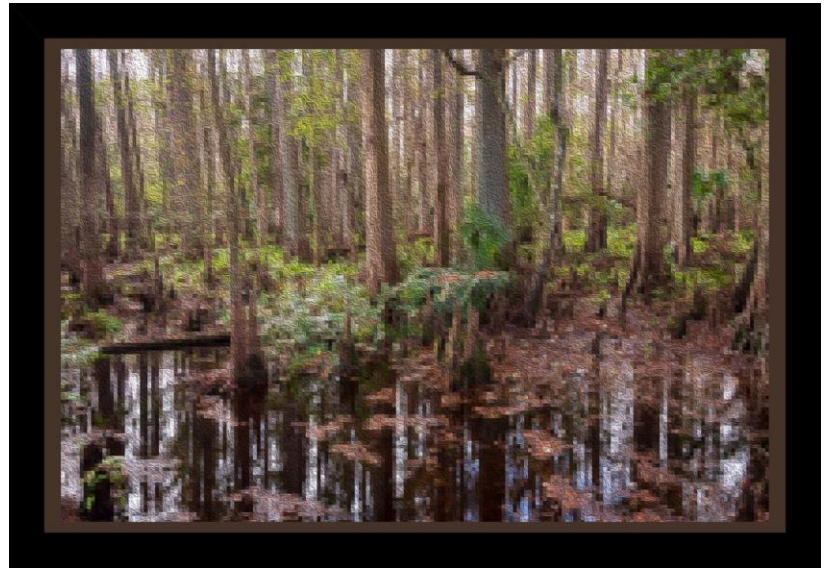
Happy Fall ◆ Claudia Courtney



Water Tower ◆ Reed James



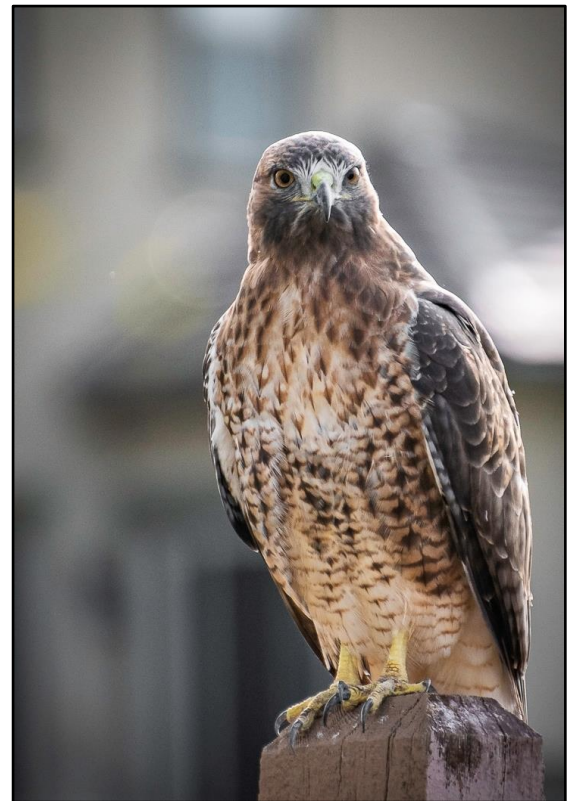
Golden Colorado Stream ♦ Cliff DeJong



Florida Swamp Painting
Vicki Braunagel



Landscape Arch ♦ Elaine Hoffman



Suburban Hunter ♦ Darcy Johnson



Chincoteague Sunrise ♦ Patricia Jarvis

Photo Submission Rules

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

- Special Topic of the Month (0-1 image)
- Challenge Topic (0-1 image)
- Open category (0-2 images)
- Creative (0-1 image)

New members are encouraged to enter photographs.

Digital image files should be no larger than 2048 pixels in the greater dimension and should be submitted as a .JPG and **submit through your own Visual Pursuits account by Sunday prior to the meeting at 5 pm. NO late entries.**

No digital entries will be accepted at the club meeting.

Please submit photos each month only after receipt of the newsletter in case there are changes to the category definitions or where to send photos.

File Type: Submit .JPG files only

- Photo title (blank spaces are allowed)
- Photographer's name (blank spaces are allowed)
- Category CODE: (SPEC for Special, CHAL for Challenge, OPEN for Open, and CREA for Creative)

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

Specific example: Bridal Veil Falls-Ansel Adams-OPEN.jpg



Winter Snow on Berries ♦ Barb Roper



Frosted Weed ♦ John Roper



Cadillac Power ♦ Reed James

SVPS Deadlines & Key Events

Sunday, Dec. 6 - Monthly photos due in Visual Pursuits

Monday, Dec. 7 - Online Member's Meeting

Sunday, Dec. 13 - Deadline for the January Newsletter

Sunday, Jan. 3 - Monthly photos due in Visual Pursuits

Monday, Jan. 4 - Online Member's Meeting