



NEXT MEETING:

Monday, March 2, 2020

LOCATION:

First United Congregational Church of Christ at 1500 9th Ave, Longmont, CO 80501 (the corner of 9th and Francis-enter from the Northwest door).

We meet in the **Fireside Room.**

TIME: 6:30-9:00 PM

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ST VRAIN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

March 2020

WELCOME!
members, new members, and guests

President's Message

I spent some of my time recently going over old photographs. (Yeah, I'm retired.) Well, not terribly old, just ones that I took a few years ago. I looked through several recent folders, and then went to the folder containing nearly 3000 photos from a trip to Alaska in 2015. I am better now at Photoshop, and have a better understanding of what makes a good photograph, thanks in part to my experiences in SVPS. I also have added a few tools, including a much better sharpening plug in, Topaz Sharpen AI.

My initial time through the photos was spent looking for good bear pictures. This time, I found several great landscape photos and a few new bear images. I also got to relive the photo adventure. One of the landscape photos is on page 2. It is an Alaskan stream, taken with a neutral density filter to get the smooth water. I love it!!

In other folders, I also found several new treasures, some of which may show up in our monthly photo shows.

I have been fortunate enough to take several photo adventures. I am starting now to go through these for the second or third time, looking for new jewels and re-processing some old favorites. I have found that my first time through was pretty good, but there are always new photos that pop up and grab my interest. I would encourage you to go back to your earlier photos and take a fresh look. It is fun to do this, and you may find some really great ones that go missed the first time through.

At our last meeting, we passed around a signup sheet for field trips. We identified seven outings, with some to start in April, and several over the summer. Reed James has volunteered to be our Field Trip Coordinator, so if you have any other ideas, talk with Reed (RAJames@SBCGlobal.net). We have posted the list later in this newsletter. We need to know what you are interested in!!

Cliff DeJong
SVPS President

SOME HELPFUL LINKS
AND INFORMATION

Email:
stvtrainphoto@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 April
NEWSLETTER – March 20**

Email news items to:

Darcy Johnson
johnsonda111@gmail.com

March 2nd Meeting

♦ Pre-Program ♦

Histograms High-key/Low-key

Speaker - Greg Holden

High-Key/Low Key photos add impact to your image by creating a strong contrast between lights and darks. Typically, high-key photos have large amounts of pure white, while low-key is the opposite with lots of dark space occupying your frame. This is one of the times where “breaking the rules” and blowing out highlights or clipping shadows is expected! Greg will provide some examples of both B&W and color images utilizing this technique.

♦ Program ♦

Illusions and How to Create Them

Speaker - Cliff DeJong

An illusion is something that is not what it looks like. There are two types: enhanced reality that improves the truth (almost all of us do this), and altered reality that goes beyond the truth (and is way more fun). Going beyond basic edits by combining two photos, (for example, by changing the sky) can often greatly improve a photo without looking like it is false. It could have been as pictured. You can also violate reality in a pleasing way that is outrageous, often bringing a laugh, followed by “How did you do that?” Well, it’s not hard to do, if you have software that allows layers. Cliff will show how that is done, and discuss some ways to find ideas for your creations. Examples will be shown.

♦ Photo Submission ♦

Special Topic

Mobile Phone Photo

Challenge Topic

Favorite Travel Photo



Cliff DeJong

2020 Remaining PROGRAM SCHEDULE and PHOTO TOPICS

(Monthly programs are subject to change. Changes, if necessary, will be noted in this newsletter.)

April

Pre-Program - **Tack Sharp Photos** **Speaker – Cliff DeJong**

Most of us know that we need a fast shutter speed (or a tripod) to take good photos, but did you know that there are several other reasons why your photos may not be tack sharp? An important one is to hold your camera properly, and you probably already know that. But what about the effects of high ISO for example? This and many other problem issues that may not be obvious will be described by Cliff DeJong at our April meeting.

Program - **What Judges Look For** **Speaker – Greg Holden**

Club member, Greg Holden, spent several years judging camera club competitions and will share his thoughts on how he evaluates photos as well as give some tips on how a few key edits can improve your images and changes of placing in competitions. Greg will also debunk the myth that a winning photo “is all about the light” This presentation will be full of images from Greg’s archive so it will be both informative and inspiring.

Photo Submission:	Special -	Churches Illusions
Challenge -		

May:

Speaker – Beth Buglione
Special – Hi-key
Challenge – Low-key

June:

Annual Pot-Luck and Awards Ceremony
Annual Competition Show and Results

September:

Summer Show & Tell Photos
Special – Butterflies
Challenge – Portrait

October:

Speaker – Max Seigel, National Geographic photographer
and Linblad Expedition Leader
Special – Action
Challenge – Water's edge/Shorelines

November:

Speaker – Rob Lantz, “Winterscapes”
Special – Clouds
Challenge – Soft Focus

December:

Elections and Holiday Party
Special – Frozen
Challenge - Panorama

What's in Your Bag? Episode 3: LCD Loupes

By Greg Holden

One of the best advantages of digital cameras is the ability to review your images while you are in the field to determine if your settings need changing. Unfortunately, I often find that the sun's glare on my camera's LCD prevents me from getting a good look at my photo. Trying to shield the large display from the sun or turning away from the light may help but is not an option if my camera is mounted to a tripod. That is when I use my Hoodman HoodLoupe®. Similar to the loupes used in the old days for viewing slides on a light table, the hood is pushed up against your LCD display to block out extraneous light and allow you to get a close up look at the display thanks to the magnifying optic in the loupe.

If you just stopped reading this article to go look up the [HoodLoupe](#) on-line and mumbled something like "It costs how much for a piece of plastic and rubber!?" like I did when I first heard about them, you are not alone. I have a box-full of gadgets and accessories (aka camera 'junk drawer') that I found ineffective, but this is not one of the discarded toys. Always in my bag and after using it for several years I can tell you that it is worth the money.

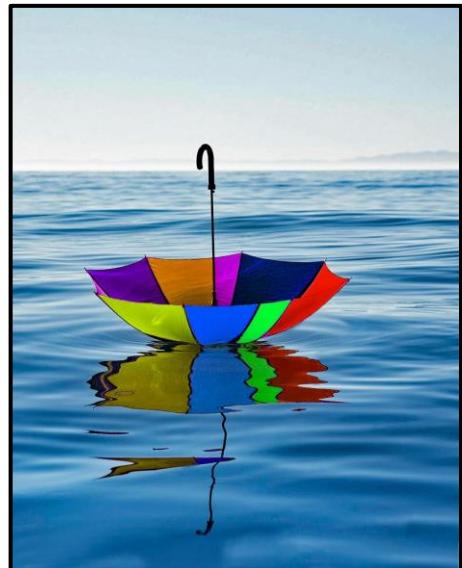
The loupe comes with a carrying case and lanyard (pictured). The case makes it easy to shove in the front pouch of my camera bag without fear of getting the lens all dusty or the lanyard getting tangled around everything else. When out photographing, I wear it around my neck to allow for quick, regular use. This also prompts a number of "What is that thing?" questions from fellow photographers and I am happy to demonstrate its advantages.

Visual Pursuits

If you need any assistance in setting up your Visual Pursuits account, contact Elaine Hoffman directly at elaine@gokiridesigns.com.



Note: This is Greg's third article in this series, and while he has a few more he would like to write, it is his hope other club members will volunteer to write an article and to share their favorite accessory. If you have an idea, talk to Greg at the next meeting.



Umbrella ♦ Barb Roper

SVPS 2020 Field Trips

At our last meeting we passed around a sheet asking for ideas for field trips. There were several suggested:

Location	Description	Level of Interest	Timeframe - Date / Session, Weekday / Weekend	Contact Information
Golden	Train Museum - Maco / Close-ups	5	April / May	Greg Holden GHolden@imagesunderfoot.com
Pella Crossing / Hygiene Ponds	Water Birds	2	April ?	?
Moab / Monument Valley	Arches, Rock Monuments, Night Skies	5	May / June / July	Dick Shiffer DickShiffer66@gmail.com
Westminster	Butterfly Pavilion	3	Before Summer	Cliff DeJong CliffDeJong@gmail.com
Leslie Larson Property	Hummingbird	7	Mid-July	Leslie Larson LLcv1@gmail.com
RMNP Night Photo	Stars and Milky Way	7	August	Cliff DeJong CliffDeJong@gmail.com
Denver	Cityscapes at Night	5	TBD	Cliff DeJong CliffDeJong@gmail.com

The level of interest is the number of people that indicated an interest in that field trip. At our March meeting, we will be asking again for ideas and for people to lead them. Leading a field trip involves collecting names and arranging a time and place to meet. That's all. Some of our field trips start in April, so it's time to get them organized. There is not much that I find more fun than a photo outing with friends!

If you have an idea, even if you are not willing to lead, let us know. Reed James is our club POC at RAJames1010@SBCglobal.net



Night Bus ♦ Greg Holden



Sand Dunes ♦ Jack Cornils

82nd Annual PSA Photo Festival

The 2020 PSA Photo Festival will be held in Colorado Springs from September 30 to October 3, 2020. Registration will open on April 1, 2020. You can find more information about the festival at <https://psa-photo.org/photo-festival-2020>



There's A Storm Moving In ♦ John Freeman

SVPS Boulder County Fair Open Photography Project 2020

The Boulder County Fair's 2020 Open Photography Project is scheduled for **July 31 to August 9**. For over 50 years, the club has been the sponsor of the open photo competition. As usual, the club will need lots of member support to make it run efficiently - someone to monitor the exhibit during the hours the display is open, about 10 days, and people to help with check-in, judging and takedown of the entries. Please consider signing up to help with our sponsorship of this important event.

Online sign-up is now available at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/6obob4da9ac2dabfdo-boulder>.

If you need more information on volunteering for this event, see us at a meeting or send an email at johnroper2@comcast.net, or barbroper@prodigy.net.

You'll be able to enter photos at <http://www.bouldercountyfair.org/> beginning May 1. The entry deadline is July 22.

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

Annual Membership Dues

See Jack at the next meeting with your dues or mail a check to Jack Cornils at 823 Snowberry, Longmont, CO 80503. Make checks payable to SVPS.



Mother ♦ Tricia Rubio

Longmont BBVA (formerly Compass) Bank Exhibit

BBVA Bank at 19th & Main St., Longmont has three open rooms and the lobby available to members of SVPS where photos can be displayed. All members of SVPS are eligible to hang one or two photos at the bank.

Be aware that photographs displayed at the bank cannot be listed for sale. However, please provide a tag indicating a title, your name and contact information for placement near the photo. When a photograph is to be hung or removed, it is required that a member of the exhibition committee is notified to assist to satisfy the bank's liability concerns.

Those who wish to display or remove photographs in the exhibit should send an email to johnroper2@comcast.net for more information and to coordinate logistics.



**Green River Inside Canyonland National Park
Dan Taber**