

# ST VRAIN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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October, 2020



# WELCOME!

2

members, *new* members, guests



## President's Message

At our September Zoom meeting, we went over summer photos along with our normal monthly submissions. Since we had a fairly small group, we went over each photo with the photographer telling us where it was taken and generally just talking about it. I have missed discussions like that and it was important to me to reestablish our connections and to reignite our passions. As usual, we had several outstanding photos – the talent in this group is wonderful.

Our Annual Competition Zoom meeting was similar and we all got critiques. If you didn't see yours, then check Display All Photos. I believe that getting feedback is important for each of us to become better photographers. As a result, we will have a critique session at our October meeting. You are invited to submit up to three photos and members will provide critiques of the images submitted. Comments will be constructive and intended to help you make improvements. You will learn not only from comments on your photos, but you will probably recognize some areas in other photos that you also could improve in your own photos.

A passion for photography unites us. Where we differ is in what subject ignites our desire: some do street photography, others portraits and still others birds, and so on. My passion for several years has been wildlife and night photography. When I go out to photograph those subjects, I find myself more alive and fired up than for any other photo task. A passion is an important part of who we are and will motivate us. So, what do we do when the initial passion fades? Understand why it has faded. In my case, wildlife that I want is too far away and difficult to find. Look for a new challenge: I am going after birds in flight, since there are lots of birds close to me. Educate yourself on new topics, possibly using Photoshop the way you have always wanted to. Find a workshop or field trip that will expose you to other photographers and someone who can help you find subjects and teach you how to capture them. Volunteer to use your talents. I take senior portraits for all my nine grandchildren and have taken them for other families. It is very rewarding.

We have several volunteer opportunities now. In December, we will elect a new president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. We also need a PSA representative to replace Todd Towell who is moving. You are not in this alone when you volunteer; there is lots of help available. Anything you do will be appreciated. Contact me or any officer for more information.

**Cliff DeJong**  
SVPS President



**NEXT MEETING:**  
October's member meeting will be held online. Look for more information in the President's Message.

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

TIME: 7 pm

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## HELPFUL LINKS AND INFORMATION

### Email:

[stvrainphoto@gmail.com](mailto:stvrainphoto@gmail.com)

### Club Website:

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

### Affiliations:



## 2020 SVPS Board

### President:

Cliff DeJong

[cliffdejong@gmail.com](mailto:cliffdejong@gmail.com)

### Vice-President:

Greg Holden

[gholden@imagesunderfoot.com](mailto:gholden@imagesunderfoot.com)

### Secretary:

Darcy Johnson

[johnsonda111@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonda111@gmail.com)

### Treasurer:

Jack Cornils

[jcc55@frii.com](mailto:jcc55@frii.com)

## DEADLINE for the November NEWSLETTER – October 20

Email photos and news items to:

Darcy Johnson

[johnsonda111@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonda111@gmail.com)

♦ Cover Photo ♦  
Hummer in Flight  
Cliff DeJong

## 2020 Upcoming PROGRAM SCHEDULE and PHOTO TOPICS

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

### October 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm

Photography Critiques

*(submit up to three images)*

Special – Action

Challenge – Water's edge/Shorelines

### November

Special – Clouds

Challenge – Soft Focus

### December

Elections and Holiday Party

Special – Frozen

Challenge – Panorama



Columbia Silk Moth ♦ Leslie Larson

## Upcoming Field Trip

### Macro/Close-Ups – Trains

Colorado Railroad Museum, Golden

Saturday, October 3

Contact Greg Holden for more information at:

[GHolden@imagesunderfoot.com](mailto:GHolden@imagesunderfoot.com)





Mosaic Eyes ♦ Elaine Hoffman



### PSA Interclub Projected Images Division (PID) Competitions 2020 / 2021 Season

SVPS is registered to participate in the PSA Projected Images Division competitions (PID) for the 2020/2021 season. Todd Towell, the current PID representative for SVPS is moving effective September 8. As a result, the club is looking for a volunteer to step in where Todd is leaving off.

Todd says responsibilities are "really not much". They include:

- Submitting images for competitions
- Submission deadline reminders
- Soliciting images
- Providing updates for newsletter
- Point of contact for PSA PID
- Reporting out results/standings
- Registering for the competition annually

Contact Todd Towell at [ttcubed@gmail.com](mailto:ttcubed@gmail.com) or Cliff DeJong at [cliffdejong@gmail.com](mailto:cliffdejong@gmail.com) to learn more about PSA Contest Representative duties and/or express your interest.

Deadline is Sunday, November 1 for submitting PID photographs to Visual Pursuits. The club will vote on the six entries that will represent SVPS in this competition at the November member's meeting. If you have questions regarding participating in the competition, please contact Cliff DeJong at [cliffdejong@gmail.com](mailto:cliffdejong@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto:elaine@gokiridesigns.com).

Aloe Explosion ♦ Greg Holden

### PSA Pictorial Print Division Club Competition

Due to COVID-19 interruptions to last year's competition, there are enough member prints already submitted to satisfy the upcoming November round. Look for information to come on submitting photos for the February and April 2021 PSA print competitions.



## SVPS Meetings/Events

The **October member's meeting will be held online**. Please join us. Look for more information on what will be happening at the October 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 October.



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.



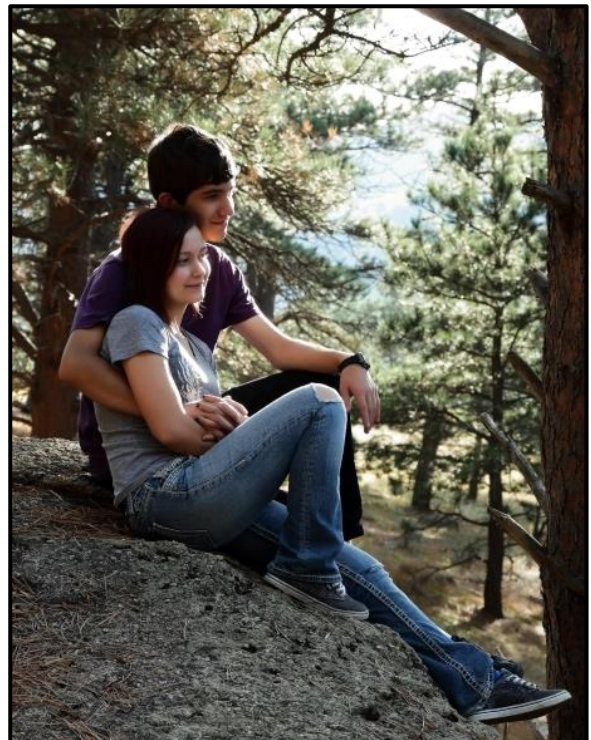
Burrowing Owl ◆ Claudia Courtney



Where the Wildflowers Bloom ◆ Catherine Cook



Church of the Good Shepard ◆ John Freeman



Love ◆ Kamen Guentchev





Water Dream ♦ Mary Stuber

### SVPS Deadlines & Key Events

**Saturday, October 3** – Macro / Close-Up - Golden Railroad Museum Field Trip

**Sunday, October 4** - Monthly photos due in Visual Pursuits

**Monday, October 5** – Online Member's Meeting

**Tuesday, October 20** – November newsletter submissions deadline

**Sunday, November 1** – PSA Projected Images Division Competition and Monthly photos due in Visual Pursuits

**Monday, November 2** – Online Member's Meeting



### Whose Got 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](mailto:johnsonda111@gmail.com). Deadline is October 20 for the next newsletter.

#### ♦ Volunteers Needed ♦

### ***Nominating Committee***

In order for us to continue as a club, we need members to step up and contribute to the running of the club. We will elect new officers in December, and that means we need to form a Nominating Committee. Their responsibility is to identify members willing to serve as President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. There are several committees that make the jobs easier and I am grateful for them.

**Please volunteer to help by serving on the Nominating Committee.** Contact any officer for more information and to volunteer. *(See page 3 for contact information)*

Thanks in advance,

**Cliff DeJong**  
SVPS President

*"The only photographer you should compare yourself to is the one you used to be."*

~ John C. Maxwell



Bedouin Guide ♦ Elaine Hoffman

## Tips & Techniques - Fall Colors

By Cliff DeJong

This time of year, there are magical scenes for us living near the Rocky Mountains. As leaves turn to red, yellow and orange colors, opportunities seem to be everywhere. We are fortunate to be close to this scenery. I have vacationed in Connecticut and Nova Scotia at peak viewing times, and they are also great places to go for color. Here are some of my ideas for maximizing your fall color shots.



Like any landscape photography, the best time of day for photos is early or late: sunrise or sunset. Overcast skies are also great for reducing extreme contrast and saturated colors, although I love the look of blue skies with pure white clouds to contrast with the fall colors. Fog or even heavy smoke can also add to your colorful photos, and can extend the sweet spot for timing.

A polarizer is a useful tool to have. It will help saturate colors, especially in the sky, and reduce reflections on the leaves or other surfaces. Some find a mild telephoto to be useful to enable

the landscape to be compressed or to isolate on a single tree with great color. A small aperture is almost always recommended for landscapes and will help your depth of field. However, you will want to shoot with low ISO to keep noise down, and the longer shutter speed needed might necessitate a tripod for sharpness. You must also maintain good compositions.

I have found it helps to have a subject or point of interest in the frame. Above is a steam train in New England, and I feel the photo is more interesting because of the colorful leaves, which contrast nicely with the billowing steam cloud. You can also show water, either flowing or with reflections. I have also used bright fall colors as out of focus backgrounds for senior photos.

You can also do close up photos of the leaves against a nice background. This photo has a starburst of the sun, created by using a small aperture, in this case f22, with the sun on an edge of a leaf and slightly underexposing.

Whatever you do, share your best photos with the club!! I look forward to seeing them!!







Checking Out the World ♦ Nancy Loving



A Rabbit's Last View ♦ Cliff DeJong



One Look Says It All ♦ Mary Stuber



Bee in a Purple Bonnet ♦ Vicki Braunagel



Neowise Comet ♦ Jack Cornils



Variegated Fritillary on Blanket Flower ♦ Hazel Gordon



## 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



Sunrise Run ♦ Patricia Jarvis



Clover Basin Reservoir on Fire ♦ John Roper

