

# ST VRAIN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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October, 2021



HELPFUL LINKS AND  
INFORMATION

**Email:**

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

**Club Website:**

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

**Affiliations:**



**2021 SVPS Board**

**President:**

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

**Vice-President:**

Claudia Courtney  
[ccourtney59@gmail.com](mailto:ccourtney59@gmail.com)

**Secretary:**

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

**Treasurer:**

Leslie Larson  
[ll.cvc1@gmail.com](mailto:ll.cvc1@gmail.com)

**DEADLINE for the NOVEMBER'S NEWSLETTER** – Saturday,

October 9 email photos and news items to: Darcy Johnson at [johnsonda111@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonda111@gmail.com)

◆ Cover Photo ◆

**Mt. Garfield in February**

**Darcy Johnson**

**SVPS Annual Competition**

**3rd Place - Landscape/Cityscape/Scenic**



**NEXT MEETING:** The next Member meeting will be held in person on Monday, October 4. Look for more information on Page 5.

In-person meetings are held 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:** 6:30 p.m.

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# **WELCOME!**

members, *new* members, guests



## **President's Message**

Why do you take photographs? Sometimes I take family photos or vacation snapshots, all usually at the request of others. But the photos that I really care deeply about are the ones I take for myself. Images that I either capture or create that fuel my creative soul.

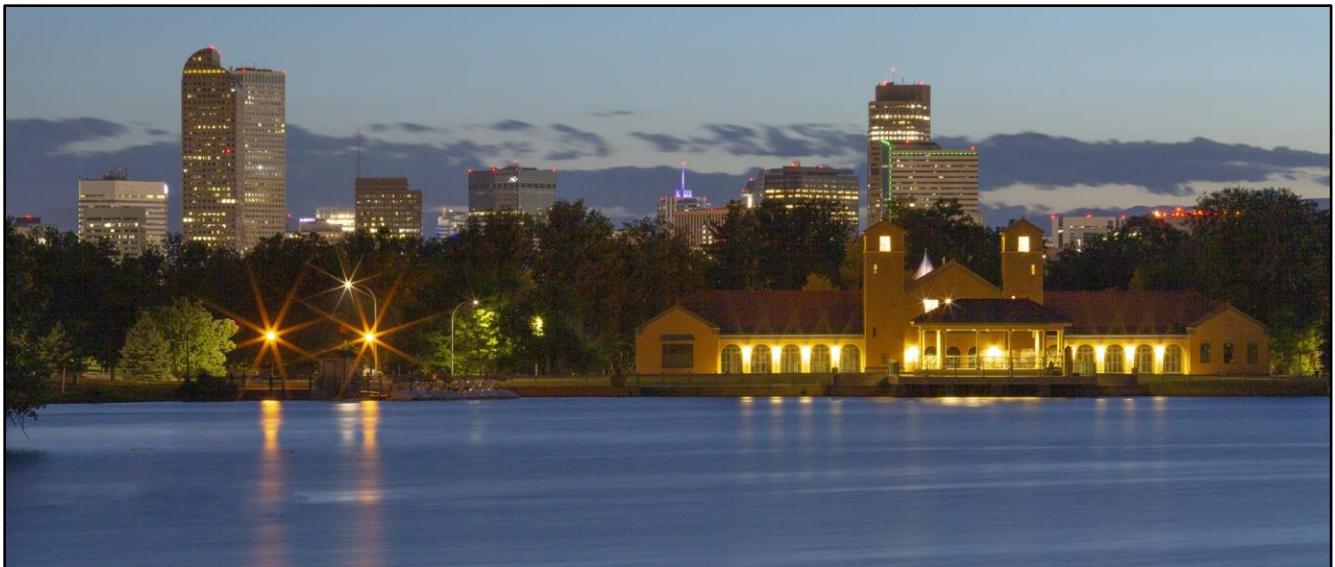
My favorite subjects are close-up nature abstracts and fine art nudes. Neither tend to be topics at monthly club meetings nor are they often categories at gallery exhibits and when they are mine rarely win awards or are sold. So why bother? Because there is a creative need I need to fill.

Fortunately, I do not take photos for a living and my 'day job' funds my photography hobby, which gives me the freedom to take photos of the things I enjoy, even if others don't appreciate them. I once heard a playwright state "True artists create because they have to, regardless of whether or not there are any takers." While it is fun to try new things and take photos for the monthly showcase topics, it is also important to make time to photograph the things that bring you creative fulfillment.

**Greg Holden**

SVPS President

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



**City Park ◆ Jack Cornils**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Place - Landscape/Cityscape/Scenic

October's Member Meeting Presentation  
**Wonders of the World ♦ Presented by Max Seigel**  
[www.maxwilderness.com](http://www.maxwilderness.com)

Inspired by my love for the outdoors and all things wild, I've set out to capture the beauty of the natural world. With degrees in biology and environmental science, I've spent the last few years travelling across the globe working on numerous conservation projects. These trips often lead me to some of the most remote and spectacular locations on the planet, providing wonderful opportunities for me to pursue my passion of photography.

As a biologist, my connection with nature is a deep-rooted part of my identity, and it fuels my passion for conservation. I love the element of the unknown when shooting wildlife. I live for those precious moments when hours of patience and determination result in breathtaking photographs. Humans are predictable, controllable, and, well... let's face it, not nearly as cute as baby penguins. This is why I find myself drawn to the corners of the earth to capture the beauty and splendor this world has to offer. If there's one thing I've taken away as a photographer, it's that the magic of the natural world is all around us. The reward, however, comes to those who are patient.

*Max works for National Geographic and for Lindblad Expeditions. He is a private photo guide when not working his other jobs. He'll be offering workshops for groups as soon as the Covid scare is over.*

### **Awards**

1<sup>st</sup> in drone aerial photography for National Geographic 2016

2<sup>nd</sup> in 2013 Nat. Geo traveler contest

1<sup>st</sup> in 2013 Destinations travel contest

1<sup>st</sup> in Shoot the Land international landscape award

14 awards in IPA (international photography awards)

### **Max's Program**

The first half of the October program will be about Max's journey into photography, with Wonders of the World presented as the second half.



## Remaining 2021 Program & Showcase Schedule

### October 4 at 6:30 p.m. In-Person Meeting

**Program:** Max Seigel – Wonders of the World  
**Special:** Barns  
**Challenge:** Winterscapes

**November 1 -** Program: Charles Needle – Impressionistic Photography  
Special: Architecture  
Challenge: Worldwide Scenic Wonders

**December 6 -** Program: Holiday Party  
Special: Neighborhood Wildlife  
Challenge: Impressionistic Photos

### Monthly Photo Showcase Submission Rules

**No more than a total of four (4) digital images may be entered in the following categories (Visual Pursuits will allow for up to six (6) images – just because you can doesn't mean you are following Monthly showcase submission rules. Please enter up to four (4) images only)**

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

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

**Submit photographs to Visual Pursuits by the Sunday prior to the meeting at 7 pm.**

**NO late entries.**

**NO digital entries will be accepted at the club meeting.**

While changes don't happen often, submit photos each month after receipt of the newsletter in case there are updates to the category topics and related definitions.

File Type: Submit .JPG files only

Maximum digital image file size is 7680 pixels wide x 4320 vertically to allow for the best possible resolution.

Photo Title: The name of the image is all that is required (blank spaces are allowed)

**General example:** Image Title.jpg

**Specific example:** Bridal Veil Falls.jpg

Category Code: Images should be placed in the proper Visual Pursuits category. Default is SPEC for Special, and an alert will be triggered if too many images are entered. Please double check the category for each image entered before leaving Visual Pursuits to ensure proper placement.



**Aloe ♦ Greg Holden**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Nature / Flowers – Other than wildlife**



**Million Dollar Smile ♦ Leslie Larson**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place – People / Portraits – Individual or Group**



**Wings Over Longs Peak ♦ Kamen Guentchev**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
3rd Place – Action / Sports – Human or otherwise



**The Dance ♦ Claudia Courtney**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
3rd Place – Birds – Wild or domestic

## Colorado Railroad Museum Field Trip

Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9 a.m. to Noon

Greg Holden will lead a club field trip to the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden. We will meet at the entrance at 9 am The museum entry fee is \$10 per person which allows you the freedom to explore the Museum's 15-acre railyard with over 100 narrow and standard gauge steam and diesel locomotives, passenger cars, and cabooses. Other than the museum in the depot building, everything is outside so be prepared for the weather that day. **Tripods are allowed.**

Please email Greg to let him know you are attending and if you have questions: [gholden@imagesunderfoot.com](mailto:gholden@imagesunderfoot.com) If you are interested in carpooling, please mention that when you email Greg and he can organize that later.

For more information about the museum, check out their website: <https://coloradorailroadmuseum.org/>

*Have an idea for a field trip? Contact Reed James at [rajames200@gmail.com](mailto:rajames200@gmail.com)*



**The Old Locomotive ♦ Kamen Guentchev**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
Honorable Mention – Monochrome – Any subject



## Volunteers Needed!

*It's your turn . . .*

*What will you do to support your photography club?*

- ◆ **2022 SVPS Board Officers** – Nominations for President, Vice President and Secretary will be solicited at the October Member's Meeting with plans to announce formal nominations at the November Member's Meeting. Voting will occur in November if unopposed or in December if otherwise. A description of duties for the officers can be found on our website at [go-svps.com](http://go-svps.com) / *About Us/Newsetters, Bylaws, etc.*
- ◆ **Webmaster** – SVPS needs a webmaster to keep tabs on everything related to the SVPS website including posting the monthly newsletter and member showcase images. Maintaining a dynamic website can keep our members up-to-date on club happenings and draw new member interest from local photographers of all levels. Contact Greg Holden at [gholden@imagesunderfoot.com](mailto:gholden@imagesunderfoot.com) for more information and to volunteer.
- ◆ **Program Committee Members** – This is a short-term commitment each year. Help decide the 2022 program schedule for member's meetings. This committee will meet at least twice to discuss possibilities for in-person or Zoom meeting presenters and recommend special and challenge photo topics. For more information or to express your interest on becoming a member of the club's Program Committee, contact Leslie Larson, Programs Coordinator at [ll.cvc1@gmail.com](mailto:ll.cvc1@gmail.com).

## HELPFUL LINKS AND INFORMATION

### SVPS Program Volunteer Contacts

#### Communications

Lynda Clayton  
[Lynand62@gmail.com](mailto:Lynand62@gmail.com)

#### County Fair Coordinators

John and Barb Roper  
[Johnroper2@comcast.net](mailto:Johnroper2@comcast.net)  
[Barbroper@prodigy.net](mailto:Barbroper@prodigy.net)

#### Field Trip Coordinator

Reed James  
[Rajames200@gmail.com](mailto:Rajames200@gmail.com)

#### Newsletter

Darcy Johnson  
[Johnsonda111@gmail.com](mailto:Johnsonda111@gmail.com)

#### Programs Coordinator

Leslie Larson  
[LL.cvc1@gmail.com](mailto:LL.cvc1@gmail.com)

#### PSA PID Intraclub Competition

Reed James  
[Rajames200@gmail.com](mailto:Rajames200@gmail.com)

#### PSA Representative

Vicki Braunagel  
[vicki.braunagel@gmail.com](mailto:vicki.braunagel@gmail.com)

#### Visual Pursuits

Elaine Hoffman  
[elaine@gokiridesigns.com](mailto:elaine@gokiridesigns.com)

*Beauty can be seen in all things, seeing and composing the beauty is what separates the snapshot from the photograph.*



**Boulder Falls ♦ Cliff DeJong**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
3rd Place – Nature / Flowers – Other than wildlife



**Basalisk Closeup ♦ Greg Holden**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
3rd Place – Reptiles, Amphibians, Insects

# Photographic Society of America

## Projected Image Division Study Groups

One of many benefits of membership in the Photographic Society of America (PSA) as an individual, is the opportunity to participate in online digital dialogue study groups. This is in addition to other activities and services, such as a monthly magazine, online courses, online photo galleries, image evaluation, mentors, consultants, photo competitions, recognition for photographic achievement and service, an annual conference, discounts on photography-related products and services, and more.

PSA has 98 small online groups designed to improve the photographic skills of the participants. Every month each group member posts one image for discussion by the rest of the group. Conversations often include kudos for good work, along with suggestions for image improvement at capture and in post processing. Most groups are focused on general photography, but there are many others that focus specifically on nature, monochrome, HDR, phoneography, drone, macro and more. Whatever your area of interest or whether you are a beginner or a seasoned pro, participants can expect to improve their photography, post processing skills and communication skills. PSA has members from over 70 countries, so you'll also meet and see the work of photographers from all over the world.

My personal experience - I currently administer and participate in an online digital dialogue group of seven photographers. This general photography group is currently comprised of three women and four men from all different backgrounds, photographic interests, and from all parts of the world, i.e., Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Montana, New York, Florida, Virginia and Colorado. I find it interesting to view a photograph I am working on, through the eyes of six others and then try to create a better image, either back in post or the next time I am photographing under similar conditions. I also get a chance to see what other photographers are doing, what they are trying out, the equipment they're using, and the creativity of over 650 photographers monthly. It's been an interesting way to get to know other photographers and learn a few things along the way.

**Darcy Johnson**  
SVPS Secretary  
[Johnsonda111@gmail.com](mailto:Johnsonda111@gmail.com)



*(Vicki Braunagel's monthly column, PSA Note, will return for future newsletters)*

### **Tell Us Your Good News!**

Did you sell an image, are you showing your photography somewhere, have you been accepted into a local or national show and/or have you been awarded top honors in a juried exhibition? Let your fellow club members know of your good fortune. Email celebrations and/or announcements to [johnsonda111@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonda111@gmail.com). Deadline is Saturday, October 9 for the November newsletter.



**Brown Pelican ♦ Vicki Braunagel**

**SVPS Annual Competition**  
2nd Place – Monochrome – Any subject

## **SVPS Deadlines & Key Events**

**Saturday, October 2** – Colorado Railroad Museum, 9 a.m. to Noon (*see page 8*)

**Sunday, October 3** – Monthly showcase photos due in Visual Pursuits

**Monday, October 4** – Member's Meeting (in-person) at 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 6 through Saturday, October 9** - PSA Photo Festival in Rapid City, SD begins

**Saturday, October 9** – Deadline for November newsletter submissions

**Sunday, October 31** – Monthly showcase photos due in Visual Pursuits

**Monday, November 1** – Member's Meeting (in-person) at 6:30 p.m.

## **SVPS Meetings/Events**

The **Monday, October 4th meeting will be held IN-PERSON starting at 6:30 p.m. at the First United Congregational Church of Christ.** Please join us. Look for more information on what will be happening at the October meeting in the Program Schedule and Photo Topics on page 5.

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

# Member Showcase Photographs

September 2021



**Sand Dune Hike by Moonlight ♦ Reed James**



**Dawn Mustang Run – BLM Hunted by Helicopter  
Patricia Jarvis**



**Mountain Goat 14er ♦ Timothy Laughlin**



**Fog on Fjord ♦ Cliff DeJong**



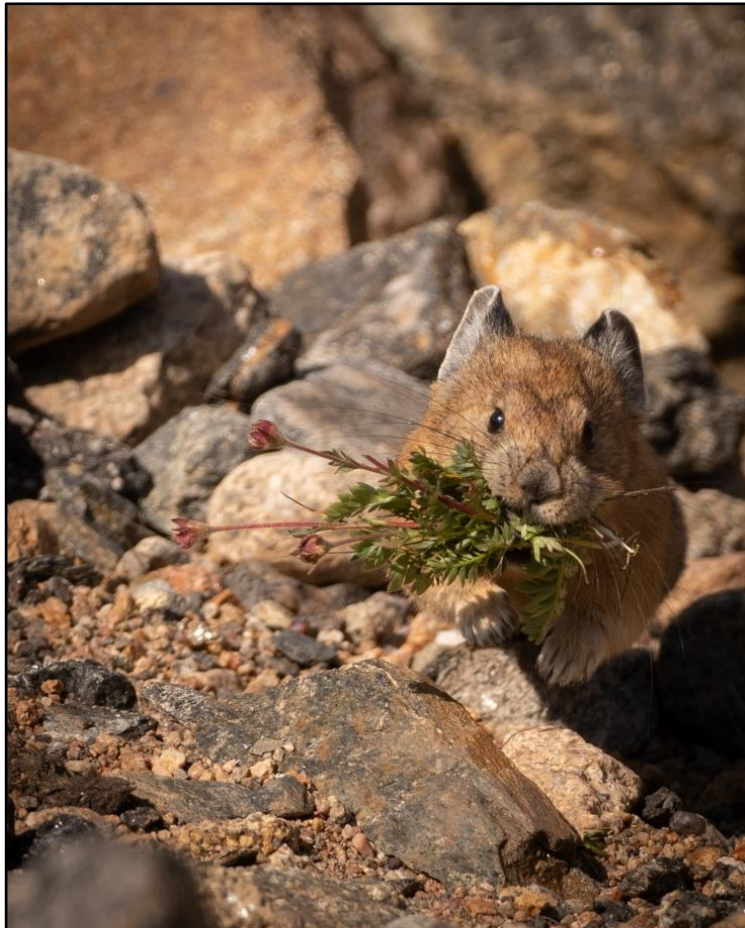
**Siberian Goshawk ♦ Nancy Loving**



**Tree in Snow Fog ♦ Greg Holden**



**Early Morning Fog ♦ Barb Roper**



**Pika Bringing Home a Bouquet  
Claudia Courtney**





**Porcupine at CM Zoo ♦ Greg Holden**



**Missouri Breaks Morning Fog ♦ Leslie Larson**



**Milky Way Over Lake Irene  
Claudia Courtney**



**Golden Dragonfly 2 ♦ Elaine Hoffman**



**Moose at Brainard Lake ♦ Kamen Guentchev**



**Out of the Fog – Portland Maine ♦ John Roper**



**Bighorns in St. Vrain Canyon 3 ♦ John Roper**

♦ **SVPS Tidbits** ♦

- ♦ The Member's Showcase images displayed in this newsletter are a selection from over 45 images submitted and shown at the September monthly meeting.
- ♦ The Treasurer reports that the club's current balance effective September 13 is \$1,389 with all known major expenses addressed for the year.
- ♦ *Go to the SVPS website at **[go-svps.com/Member's Gallery/2021 Annual Competition](http://go-svps.com/Member's Gallery/2021 Annual Competition)** to view all 2021 Annual Competition awarded photographs.*
- ♦ The SVPS uses Visual Pursuits to enter photographs for PSA competitions and monthly club shows. For assistance in getting started and setting up your Visual Pursuits account, contact Elaine Hoffman at [elaine@gokiridesigns.com](mailto:elaine@gokiridesigns.com).