

ST VRAIN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September, 2021



HELPFUL LINKS AND
INFORMATION

Email:

stvrainphoto@gmail.com

Club Website:

www.go-svps.com

Affiliations:



2021 SVPS Board

President:

Greg Holden

gholden@imagesunderfoot.com

Vice-President:

Claudia Courtney

ccourtney59@gmail.com

Secretary:

Darcy Johnson

johnsonda111@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Leslie Larson

ll.cvc1@gmail.com

DEADLINE for the OCTOBER NEWSLETTER – Saturday,

September 11 email photos and news items to: Darcy Johnson at johnsonda111@gmail.com

◆ Cover Photo ◆

Red Fox at Sunset
Claudia Courtney

SVPS Annual Competition

1st Place & People's Choice

Animals (except birds) - Wild or Domestic



NEXT MEETING: September's Member meeting will be held on Monday, September 13. Look for more information on Page 4.

In-person meetings are held 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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WELCOME!

members, *new* members, guests



President's Message

Fall is here and that means resuming regular club meetings after our usual summer hiatus. The board has decided that we can safely resume in-person meetings with all attendees wearing masks, as required by the church where our meetings are held. We met in-person for the first time in early August for the Annual Competitions and Awards program and it was nice to be together again, even if we had a low turn-out. I look forward to seeing you in person, but if you are not comfortable joining us, I understand. Even if you do not wish to join us for in-person meetings, I hope you attend one of our outdoor field trips this fall. I am planning to again lead a group to the Colorado Railroad Museum the first weekend in October (see details on page 13) since we had such a good time last fall. If you have ideas for field trips, please let me or Reed James, our Field Trip Coordinator, know.

Greg Holden

SVPS President

gholden@imagesunderfoot.com



Hooray for the Red, White & Blue ◆ Barb Roper

SVPS Annual Competition
2nd Place & People's Choice, Photo Art/Creative

Remaining 2021 Program & Showcase Schedule

September 13 at 6:30 p.m.

In-Person Meeting

Program: Rob Lantz - Snowscapes
Special: Fog
Challenge: North American Safari Animals

October 4 - 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

September's Member Meeting Presentation

Snowscapes - Taking High Contrast Winter Shots Presented by Rob Lantz www.roblantzphoto.com



September speaker Rob Lantz will be speaking to us about snowscapes and how to manage the difficulties of taking high contrast winter shots.

We soon will be facing winter weather again (I hope). One of the most difficult problems in taking pictures when the landscape is bright white with dark trees, rocks, etc. is figuring out the exposure settings. Rob will help us sort this out.

Rob is a Boulder local and exhibits his work at the R Gallery and Art Bar at 2027 Broadway, Boulder just north of the Pearl St. Mall. On July 24th he presented an artist talk there.



Devils Tower Sunset ♦ John Freeman

SVPS Annual Competition
People's Choice, Landscape/Cityscape/Scenic

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.

Contact Elaine Hoffman at elaine@gokiridesigns.com for questions or assistance.

SVPS 2020-21 Annual Competition

◆ Best of Show and 1st Place Awards ◆

Go to the SVPS website at [go-svps.com/Member's Gallery/2021 Annual Competition](https://go-svps.com/Member's%20Gallery/2021%20Annual%20Competition)
to view all awarded photographs.



Dragonfly Headon ◆ Vicki Braunagel

**SVPS Annual Competition
Best of Show**

**Other Awards: 1st Place & People's Choice
Category: Reptiles, Amphibians, Insects**



Baja Canyon Rainbow ♦ Leslie Larson

**SVPS Annual Competition
1st Place, Landscape/Cityscape/Scenic**



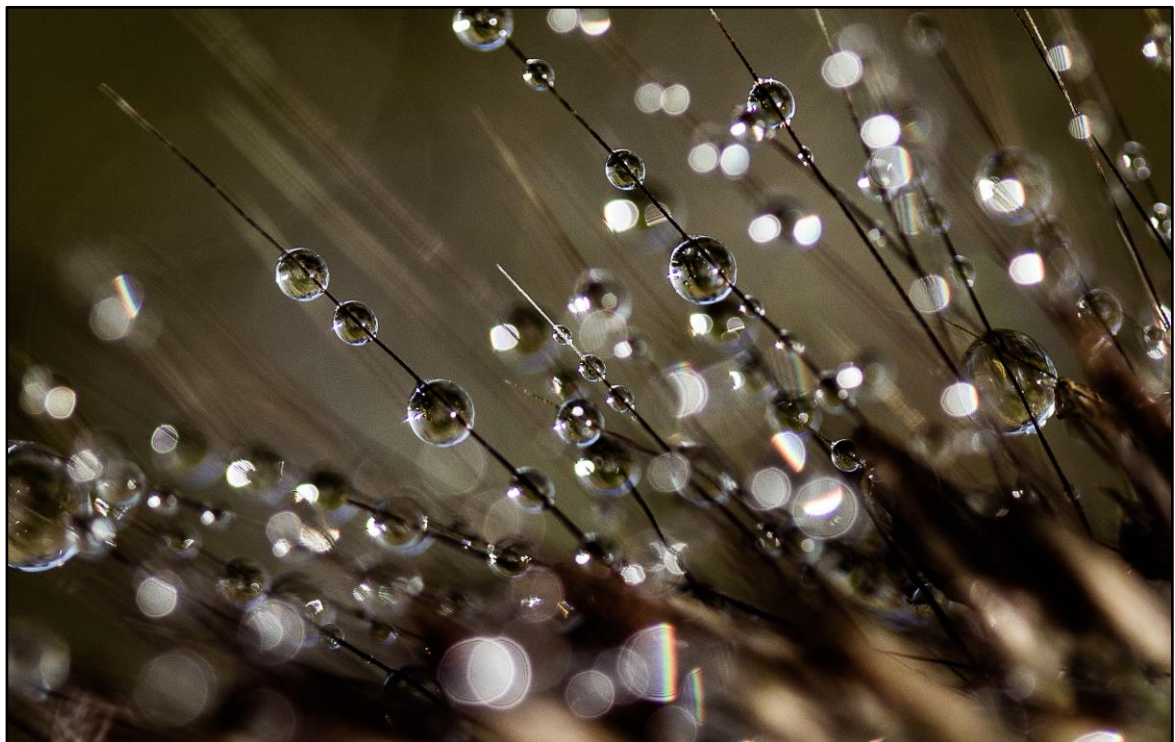
Intense ♦ Jack Cornils

**SVPS Annual Competition
1st Place, Birds - Wild or domestic**



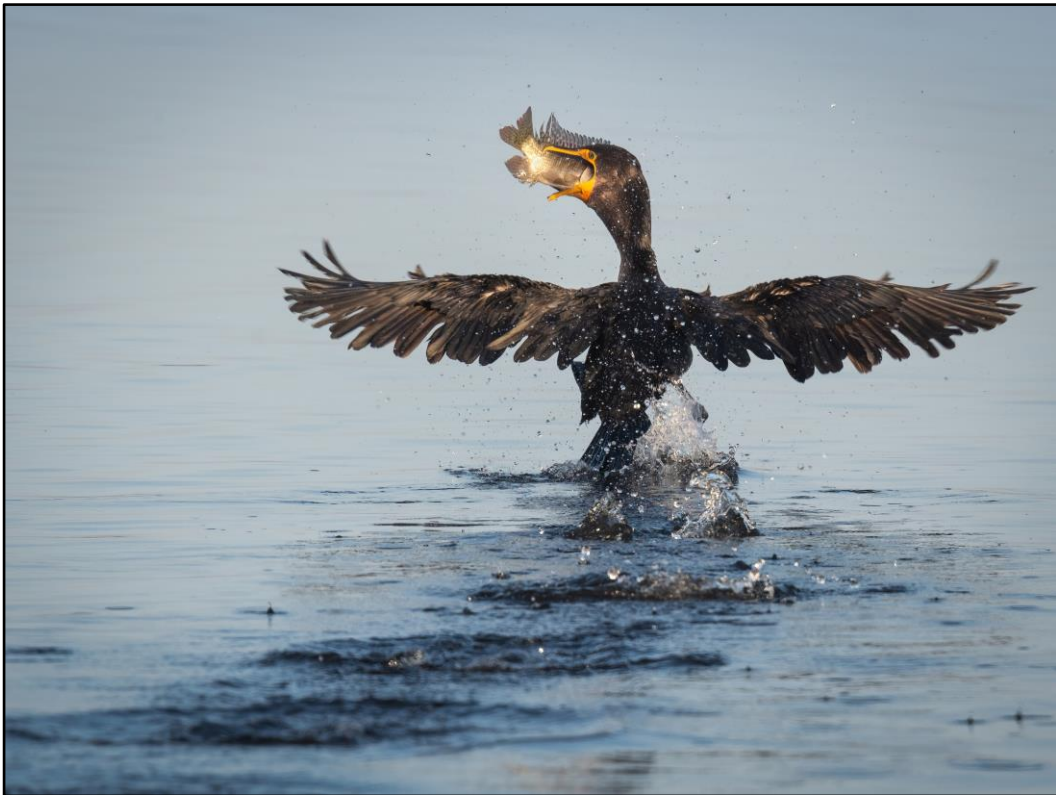
Red Fox at Sunset ♦ Claudia Courtney

SVPS Annual Competition
1st Place, Animals (except birds) – Wild or domestic



Dew Drops ♦ Elaine Hoffman

SVPS Annual Competition
1st Place, Nature / Flowers - Other than wildlife



Speeding Away with Breakfast ♦ Vicki Braunagel

SVPS Annual Competition

1st Place, Action/Sports – Human or otherwise



What Charlie Saw ♦ Darcy Johnson

SVPS Annual Competition

1st Place, People /Portraits – Individual or group



Animas Forks, CO ♦ Greg Holdon

**SVPS Annual Competition
1st Place, Monochrome - Any subject**



Creative HK Taxi ♦ John Litchfield

**SVPS Annual Competition
1st Place, Photo Art/Creative**

Annual Competition Judging

Due to some confusion regarding the judging of the annual competition by PSA, I'm providing some additional information that might help explain some of the procedural things that occurred for the competition.

When I initially contacted the PSA Interclub Judging representative, I had to provide an estimation of the number of images that would be in the competition along with categories and such. Given that over the past year, there have been anywhere from 25 to 40 people submit entries to the monthly showcases, the number in last year's competition, and the number of entries allowed, I estimated that there could have as many as 120 photos in the contest. Given this information, PSA decided to have 4 different judges for our competition and split up the categories among the four judges.

PSA has noted that they can only provide comments for up to 30 photos in a contest and it's possible that this is why they chose 4 individuals to be able to provide comments for all of our photos. Before knowing this, I was asked to provide guidance and told them that for each category the judge should comment on one of the higher ranked photos as to why they felt it was worth an award and to then comment on 2 or 3 of the non-placing photos to provide guidance on what they felt could have made a better photo. Once PSA decided on 4 judges, they then decided to comment on all of the photos in every category. Judges were not asked to provide any more than 3 or 4 sentences in the critiques and those that had more information were done solely at their discretion.

The judges were only tasked with judging their specific categories and were to use a ranking/scoring system of between 1 and 10, with 10 being the best. Some judges used a 100-point system noted in their comments but still awarded a score between 1 and 10 for each image and then ranked each photo and awarded placings and HMs. There were no limitations on the number of HMs for any category so we saw anywhere from one to four awarded in the various categories.

Only after all of the judges individually placed their categories, did they get together to decide on the Best of Show from the winners of each category.

We are providing feedback to PSA regarding the judging, as we did last year. Any comments regarding the judging should be sent to Greg for inclusion in the official response.

Elaine Hoffman

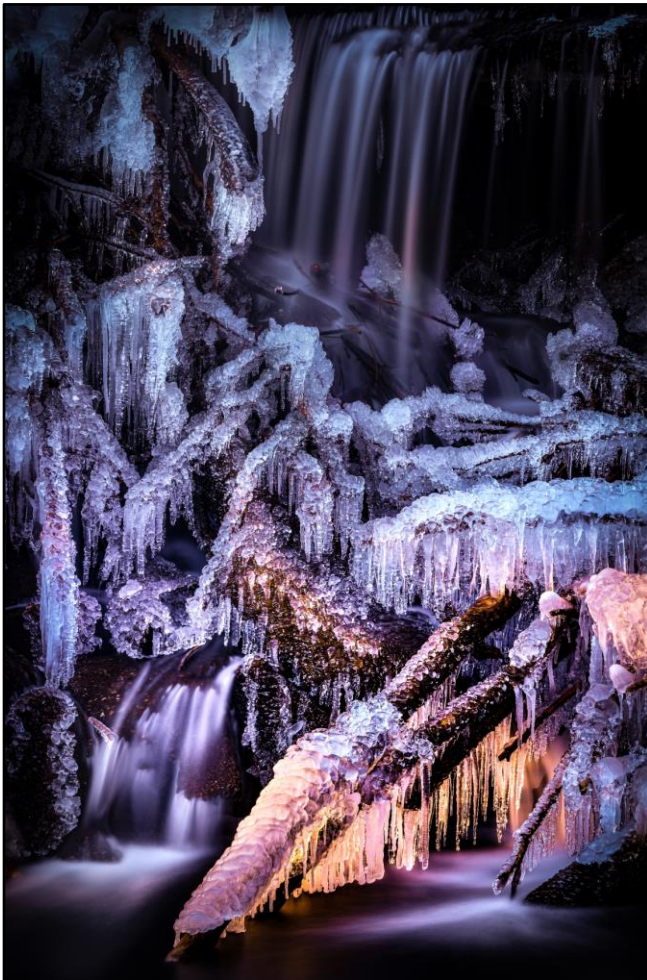
PSA Photo Print Intraclub Competition
and Visual Pursuits Coordinator

Elaine@GoKiriDesigns.com



Ultralights Against a Storm Cloud ♦ John Roper

SVPS Annual Competition
People's Choice Best of Show
and People's Choice, Action/Sports – Human or otherwise



*Life is like a camera.
Just focus on what's important,
capture the good times,
develop from the negatives,
and if things don't turn out,
take another shot.*

~ Unknown

Golden Pond in the Winter
Robert Daugherty

SVPS Annual Competition
People's Choice
Nature/Flowers - Other than wildlife

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. Deadline is Saturday, September 11 for the September newsletter.

Upcoming Field Trip

Mark Your Calendars!

Colorado Railroad Museum

Saturday, October 2nd from 9 a.m. to Noon

Greg Holden will lead a club field trip to the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden. Museum entry fee is \$10 per person, which provides access for the entire day, although Greg suggests we take a break at noon and get some lunch at a nearby establishment (TBD). After lunch, you are free to return to the museum on your own. Please email Greg to let him know you are attending and if you have questions: gholden@imagesunderfoot.com

We will meet at the entrance to the museum at 9 am when they open and you will be free 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.** We will be there during their regular public hours and will not have any special access.

Since most of the cars are outside, I found many of them to be in some state of decay or are closely parked that is not suitable for wide shots of any on entire vehicle, but I believe there are plenty of smaller, close-up and macro shots. There will be no formal instruction given, but if you would like some help in your compositions or macro photography techniques, Greg is willing to answer questions.

Check out Greg's photos from a similar train museum in Baltimore to get some ideas of what to look for:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/holdengs/albums/72157641929623495>

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

It is about a 1-hour drive from Longmont to the museum, so if you are interested in carpooling, please mention that when you email Greg and he can organize that later.

Summer 2021 Field Trips

Milky Way and Star Photography in Rocky Mountain National Park
Friday, July 9th field trip led by Cliff DeJong



Untitled ♦ Joanie Pettigrew



CDJ8905 E Small ♦ Cliff DeJong

Hummingbirds

Saturday, July 24th field trip led by Leslie Larson



Resting in the Shade ♦ Cathy Cook



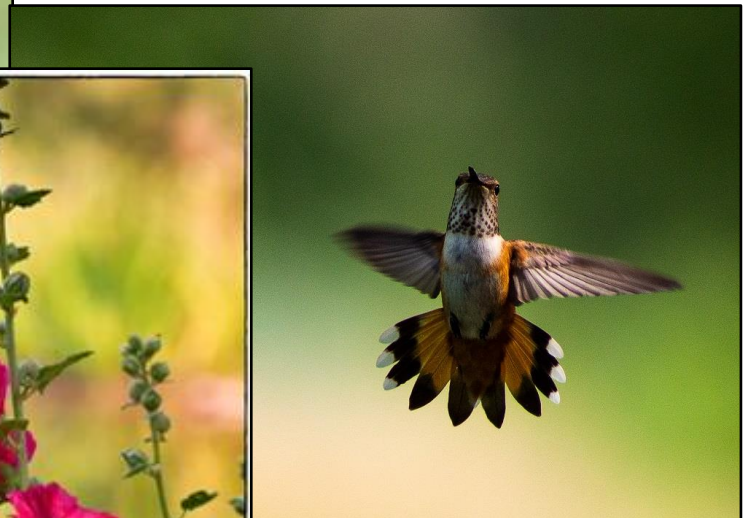
Hummer on Soapwort ♦ Leslie Larson



Untitled ♦ Vicki Braunagel



Untitled ♦ Claudia Courtney



Hummer 4 ♦ Elaine Hoffman

HELPFUL LINKS AND
INFORMATION

SVPS Program Volunteer Contacts

Communications

Lynda Clayton
Lynand62@gmail.com

County Fair Coordinators

John and Barb Roper
Johnroper2@comcast.net
Barbroper@prodigy.net

Field Trip Coordinator

Reed James
Rajames200@gmail.com

Newsletter

Darcy Johnson
Johnsonda111@gmail.com

Programs Coordinator

Leslie Larson
LL.cvc1@gmail.com

PSA PID Intraclub Competition

Reed James
Rajames200@gmail.com

PSA Photo Print Intraclub Competition

Elaine Hoffman
elaine@gokiridesigns.com

PSA Representative

Vicki Braunagel
vicki.braunagel@gmail.com

Visual Pursuits

Elaine Hoffman
elaine@gokiridesigns.com



WELCOME

SVPS Newest Member Joe Melvin

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 September Member's Meeting with plans to announce formal nominations at the October Member's Meeting. Voting will occur in November. A description of duties for the officers can be found on our website at go-svps.com / *About Us/Newsetters, Bylaws, etc.*
- ◆ **Program Committee Members** – This is a short-term commitment each year. The assistance of club members is needed to help decide the 2022 program schedule for member's meetings. Members of this committee will meet at least twice to discuss possibilities for in-person or Zoom meeting presenters and make recommendations for special and challenge photo topics. Upon the remote chance that issues arise with speakers during the year, an additional meeting may be necessary. Leslie Larson is the Programs Coordinator. Contact Leslie at ll.cvc1@gmail.com for more information or to express your interest on becoming a member of the club's Program Committee.



Our 1st Sparkler ♦ Reed James

SVPS Annual Competition
3rd Place and People's Choice, People/Portraits – Individual or group

PSA Note

The PSA Photo Festival in Rapid City, SD is still scheduled for Oct 6-9. The Black Hills are spectacular. So, if you want, and are comfortable with, a photography trip this fall, this one is close and includes a festival!

Registration is available on-line until Sept 10 and re-opens on-site on Oct 4. A discount is available for the early registration. PSA is offering a full refund for cancellations to ease any concerns about Covid. Many of the pre-tours still have openings.

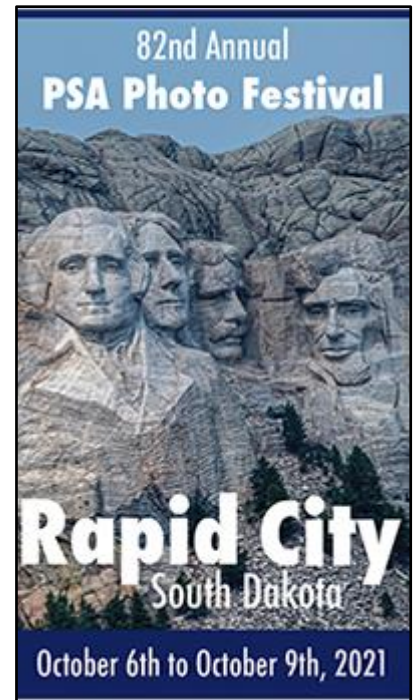
Click link for details and registration information.

<https://psaconference.regfox.com/2021-photographic-society-of-america-photo-festival-rapid-city-sd>

Vicki Braunagel

PSA Representative

vicki.braunagel@gmail.com



PSA Photo Print Interclub Competition

As noted during the annual meeting, the club will not participate in the PSA printed club competition for 2021/22. This decision was made in light of the participation rates for last year and uncertainty regarding the next year's in-person meetings. Also, I will not be at the October or November meetings and will be unavailable to coordinate the competition. This can be discussed during the September meeting, but should we go forward, the club would need a coordinator ASAP.



Elaine Hoffman

PSA Photo Print Intraclub Competition
and Visual Pursuits Coordinator

Elaine@GoKiriDesigns.com



Storytelling ♦ Nancy Loving

SVPS Annual Competition
People's Choice, Birds - Wild or domestic

♦ SVPS Tidbits ♦

- ♦ The Treasurer reports that the club's current balance effective mid-August is \$1,601.
- ♦ The PSA Newsletter Contest has been helpful in providing valuable feedback on our newsletter. Some of the more interesting feedback from judges included: Positives – wonderful images throughout and good presentation of competition results showing the club's standings. Negatives - our newsletter lacks a name, as well as feature and how-to articles.
- ♦ 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.

SVPS Deadlines & Key Events

Friday, September 10 – Early registration deadline for PSA Photo Festival

Saturday, September 11 – Deadline for October newsletter submissions

Sunday, September 12 – Monthly showcase photos due in Visual Pursuits.

Monday, September 13 – Member's Meeting (in-person) at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 2 – Colorado Railroad Museum, 9 a.m. to Noon (*see page 11*)

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

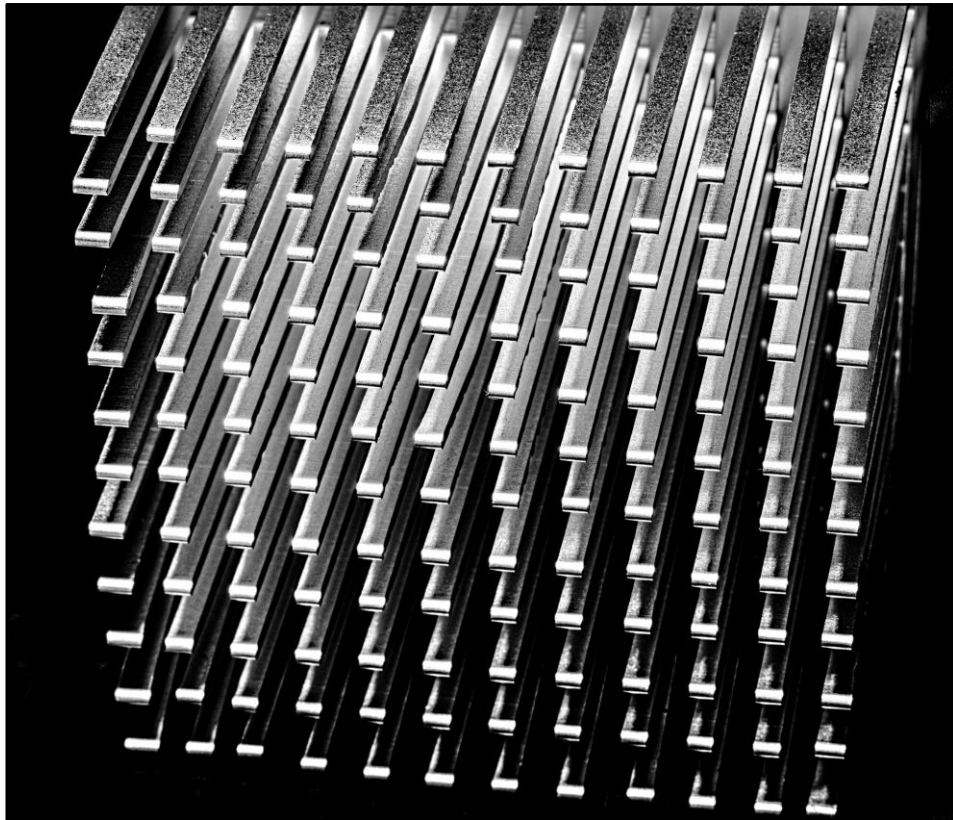
Saturday, October 9 - PSA Photo Festival in Rapid City, SD begins (*see page 15*)

Saturday, October 9 – Deadline for November newsletter submissions

SVPS Meetings/Events

The **Monday, September 13th** 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 September meeting in the Program Schedule and Photo Topics on page 4.

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.



Cooled by Computer Heat Sink ♦ Robert Daugherty

SVPS Annual Competition
Honorable Mention and People's Choice, Monochrome - Any subject

Longmont BBVA Bank Exhibit

John Roper who coordinates the Longmont BBVA Bank Exhibit for SVPS got a call from the bank. They have been bought out by another institution. Bank personnel will be going through an inventory and they asked John to pick up the photographs displayed there. BBVA Bank doesn't know if they will be able to display them after the new bank is set up - they hope so. John will get them soon and will have all photographs at his house in southwest Longmont. If you wish, he will arrange a time for you to pick yours up, otherwise he will bring them to the next meeting. John has a photo inventory but until he gets them, he won't know who the owners are. He'll send out another message when he gets them secured. Contact John at 303.485.9390 or johnroper2@comcast.net



Image 2045 ♦ Mary Stuber

**SVPS Annual Competition
3rd Place, Monochrome - Any subject**



Balloon Ride ♦ Claudia Courtney

**SVPS Annual Competition
2nd Place, Action/Sports,
Human or otherwise**