



St Vrain Photographic Society Newsletter

www.go-svps.com

February 2022

GREETINGS and WELCOME!

NEXT MEETING: The meeting will be held ONLINE on **Monday, February 7, at 6:30 p.m.**

(A Zoom link will be sent to members prior to the meeting – meeting leader: Vicki Braunagel)

In-person meetings are held in the Fireside Room at the First United Congregational Church of Christ, 1500 9th Ave, Longmont, CO *(at the corner of 9th and Francis, enter in the NW door).*

February Member Showcase

Special Topic: *Circles*

Challenge Topic: *Birds*



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NEW MEMBERS

Gautam Bhan, Jon Krecker,
Rene Larrabee, Joyce Rivera,
Diana Tanney, Scott Wilson

FEBRUARY MEETING

PROGRAM

The 25 Photos You Should Take

This presentation will focus on a wide variety of photography topics and tips, as well as possible places to add to your photography “bucket list”. From food to fireworks and Iceland to Colorado; there will be inspiration and technical advice for all levels of photography...including ideas for cell phone “shooters”. (More than 25 photographs will likely be presented during the presentation.)

About the Presenter:

Mark A. Payler is a practicing Colorado professional landscape, street, and travel photographer. With decades of commercial photography and teaching experience, Mark also has an extensive list of clients including the Bank of Colorado, the Tournament Players Club (PGA Resorts), as well as numerous hotels, restaurants, and regional hospitals. Mark’s work has been highlighted in the landmark book, “A Day in the Life of America”. He was featured with a double-spread photograph in the 50th anniversary issue of “Popular Photography” magazine and most recently a portfolio presentation in “Route” magazine.

Mark currently teaches photography for the OLLI institute at the University of Denver. His upcoming Spring 2022 classes on Zoom include “Route 66” as well as “Capturing Shadows or Altering Reality?”

He’s currently taking a break from teaching to be grandpa and catch up on personal photography including a book project tentatively entitled “Epic”.

On a personal note, Mark and his wife, Cindy, were co-presidents of our camera club a number of years ago. I always like to see what this talented pair is up to in their photography lives.



PROGRAMS & SCHEDULE

Monday, March 6 - Cathy Cook - Meeting Leader	Program: Club Challenge: <i>Creative Photo Manipulation</i> Special: <i>Masks</i> Challenge: <i>One of 25 Photos</i>
Monday, April 4 - Claudia Courtney - Meeting Leader	Program: <i>TBD</i> Special: <i>Vanishing Point</i> Challenge: <i>Long Exposure</i>
Monday, May 2 - Leslie Larson - Meeting Leader	Program: <i>Focus Stacking</i> Claudia Courtney Special: <i>Intimate Landscapes</i> Challenge: <i>TBD</i>
June - date to be determined Reed James - Meeting Leader	Annual Awards Ceremony
July/August -	No Meetings / Summer Break

The Program Committee continues to work on the speakers for 2022.

Program Committee: Vicki Braunagel, Cathy Cook, Claudia Courtney,
Patricia Jarvis, Leslie Larson, and Barb Roper.



**Don't Forget to
Renew Membership
by February 28**

Deadline for *Renewal*:

February 28, 2022

Membership Dues:

\$35 - Individual

\$50 - Family

Make check to SVPS

Send dues to:

Leslie Larson

P.O. Box 4

Lyons, CO 80540

For questions - contact:

Leslie Larson,

LL.cvc1@gmail.com

Thanks to **Anthony Maine**, SVPS is in the midst of updating its website: go-svps.com. If you have ideas or suggestions for the updated website, please get in touch with Anthony.
svpscameraclub@gmail.com

SVPS DEADLINES

Sunday, February 6 - Monthly showcase photos due in Visual Pursuits

Monday, February 7 - Member's Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Visual Pursuits

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.

PSA Release Forms

PSA now requires that PSA release forms must be provided before images are uploaded in PSA competitions. If your current release form was signed before June, 2019, a new form will be required before images are submitted to PSA.

For questions about whether you need to submit or obtain a PSA Release Form, contact Reed James at Rajames200@gmail.com

MONTHLY PHOTO SHOWCASE SUBMISSION RULES

No more than a total of five (5) digital images may be entered in the following categories:

- Special Topic of the Month (0-2 images)
- Challenge Topic (0-2 images)
- Open category (0-2 images)
- Critique category (0-1 image) *(New category-feedback from members)*
(Visual Pursuits will allow for up to eight (8) images – just because you can doesn't mean you are following Monthly showcase submission rules.)
Please enter up to five (5) images only!

Category Code: **Images must 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. CRIT is for the new Critique category. Please double check the category for each image entered before leaving Visual Pursuits to ensure proper placement.

All members are encouraged to enter photographs. SVPS members will provide constructive critique to photos in the critique category.

Submit photos to Visual Pursuits by the Sunday prior to the meeting at 7 p.m.

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

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

SVPS Contacts

Email:

svpscameraclub@gmail.com

Vice-President:

Reed James

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Meeting Leaders:

Vicki Braunagel

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Hospitality Coordinator

Claudia Courtney

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Programs Coordinator

Leslie Larson

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PSA PID Intraclub Competition

Reed James

Rajames200@gmail.com

Light makes photography. Embrace light. Admire it. Love it. But above all, know light. Know it for all you are worth, and you will know the key to photography. - George Eastman -

Tips on Bird Photography by Vicki Braunagel

Birds can be tricky creatures; they are often small, move quickly and ALWAYS seem to fly as soon as you get them in focus but BEFORE you start shooting! These tips may help, but nothing beats practice and taking lots and lots of photos.

Camera settings:

1. **Use continuous focus (AF-C for Nikon, AI Servo for Canon)** with as fast a shutter speed as you need to freeze motion. For slow moving birds, like cranes or herons, 1/500 sec may work, but for fast moving hummingbirds you may need 1/2000 sec. I generally use **spot metering**, particularly if shooting into the sky.
2. **Use a wide open aperture.** You may lose some depth of field, but you only really need the bird's eye and head to be sharp and the benefits of increased light and lower ISO are worth the trade-off. If you are photographing in bright light you may be able to increase the f-stop and allow more of the bird to be in focus.
3. **Use continuous shooting to nail any action shots.** Continuous shooting allows you to fire off a burst of photos, but be mindful of your camera's buffer. A camera's buffer can fill up quickly so it's good to have an idea of the camera's frame per second capability.
4. **ISO Setting.** In low-light conditions or shooting into dark areas, try auto-ISO while keeping the shutter speed high. You can set a maximum ISO in your camera settings, but newer cameras can handle a fairly high ISO with much less noise. I generally set my camera to shoot in manual, with an aperture of f5.6 (or wider depending on how fast my lens is), a minimum shutter speed of 1000 and see what ISO that produces. I will use auto ISO if the light conditions are varying.

Birds in flight:

1. **Position yourself** with both light AND wind to your back, if possible. Birds prefer to land and take-off into the wind.
2. **Minimize the number of auto focus area points** to the lowest number of focal points on your dynamic-area of settings (it actually helps keep the focus on the bird(s) as they fly).
3. Try **to grab focus on the bird** as it flies but track it and "bump" the focus from time to time as it gets closer, shooting it as it begins to fill the frame. But don't hesitate to shoot when you have the best opportunity and crop, crop, crop.
4. You can **pan with the bird if it's flying** across your view, but waiting too long to press the shutter, it's easy to end up with only the back half of the bird in the shot!

Have fun and remember for 100 shots if you have 10 keepers and a couple of ones you really like, that's success! ~Vicki

New Secretary / Newsletter Editor!

Hello everyone. My name is Diana Tanney and I'm excited to be a new member of the SVPS. I'll be putting together the monthly newsletters starting with the next edition. I'm grateful to Darcy, Cathy, Leslie, and Reed for setting me up for success in this endeavor. It may take me a few editions before I am fully in command of the software so be patient with the overall aesthetic look of it. Darcy's beautifully laid-out and informative newsletters will be a tough act to follow. If you have **announcements or information that you'd like included in an upcoming newsletter, please submit it to me by the 20th of the month at dianainboulder@comcast.net**. Please put "Newsletter" in the subject line. I look forward to keeping everyone in the know about club offerings, activities and relevant news.