

**MARCH
2024**

go-svps.com

St. Vrain Photographic Society Newsletter

March Meeting

Join us for the SVPS club meeting.

Monday, MARCH 4

6:30 to 9:00 pm

United Church of Christ,
1500 9th Ave., Longmont
and on ZOOM

March Special & Challenge Categories

(See submission guidelines on p. 2)

Special Topic:
Structures-old or new

Challenge Topic:
Hi-key or Lo-key

April Meeting (April 1)

Program – Flower Art
with Bob Daugherty

Special Topic: *People*

Challenge Topic:
Conveying Action

SVPS website:
go-svps.com



March Program – Tips for Taking Great People Photos *with Clare Curtin*

When taking pictures of people, it helps to know how to make them look their best and represent what makes them special. Also important is how to convey emotions and encapsulate a moment or experience in one image. Even subtle adjustments in changing the environment, body and head positions, or facial expressions can make a difference. By knowing how to guide the process, you can take captivating photos that are both appreciated by the people and create visual interest.

Included are considerations for:

- ☐ Background, lighting, angles
- ☐ Gaining trust and building a relationship
- ☐ Poses for individual portraits
- ☐ Poses for group portraits
- ☐ Compositional elements
- ☐ Portraying personality, emotion, action, or fun
- ☐ Street scenes from a distance and street portraits

Thus, this program will provide tips for taking quality photos whether posed or candid as well as street photography.

Great Frame Up (GFU) Exhibit April 12 (Reception) to May 31, 2024

**JOIN US for our second-year exhibit at the Great Frame Up
430 Main St., Longmont**

Deadline to sign up for this exhibit is March 1, with board assignments done by March 10. There will be two categories: Color and Black/White. Details for hanging are the same as last year and will be distributed to participants by March 10.

Submit your photo for the homepage of the club website

We would like the club's homepage to represent our member's best work, so now is the time to submit those photos! ONE photo per photographer. Images must be landscape orientation and 2048 pixels wide. Please include how you would like your name to be printed and a title (optional). Photos will be rotated throughout the next year. Please email photos to svpscameraclub@gmail.com by March 15.

The photo guidelines are also found at
<https://go-svps.com/monthly-showcase-rules>

Please note the following changes for 2024.

Monthly Photo Showcase Changes for 2024

1. The SVPS Board has reduced the photo categories to three: Open, Challenge, & Special. The total submissions from each person has also been reduced to three. The feedback category has been eliminated with encouragement to provide feedback on all photos as time allows.
2. Each member will be allowed to submit a **TOTAL of THREE images**: Special: 0-2 images; Challenge: 0-2 images; Open: 0-2. The goal of providing feedback is to emphasize the learning process by providing helpful comments to each photographer on the work they submit.

Photo Submission Steps

(Submit only if you plan to attend the meeting)

1. Prepare your photos. Name all submissions with your first name + last name and title of the photo. Example. Leslie Larson-Bear.jpg
2. Size your photos. Resize your photos to 2048 pixels on the longer side. Photos should not be larger than 5MB and be in .jpg format.
3. You will receive an email from Reed each month with three links. 1) Special topic, 2) Challenge topic, and 3) Open.
You may enter only **three total photos**.
4. Enter your photos (drag and drop) into the correct SVPS link sent out before the meeting every month. **Deadline:** 11:30 pm Sunday before the following Monday meeting to send in your submissions. Photos will be moved to the club computer for the showcase slideshow. Scott will download them for the website and then they will be deleted. Let Scott know if, for any reason, you don't want your photos to be displayed on our website: [go-SVPS.com](https://go-svps.com).

The 2024 dues are due. **PLEASE NOTE** the new dues amounts: \$40/individual and \$65/family.

Make check to SVPS. Mail to: Leslie Larson, P.O. Box 4, Lyons, CO 80540 or give to Reed James at the meeting. Questions: Contact Leslie svpscameraclub@gmail.com

Guidelines for Giving Constructive Feedback:

1. Begin with feedback on what works and what is strong about the image. What aspects of the photo first caught your eye? Composition, color, creativity, emotion, etc. Be specific.
2. Try to identify what the photograph is trying to capture or express.
3. Identify the elements that could be stronger or are distracting and give specific, constructive ideas on how to improve their photos in the future.
4. Be articulate and specific with your feedback.
5. Be honest and supportive.
6. Don't repeat what has already been said.
7. End your feedback by expressing something that you like about the photograph.
8. Critique the image, not the subject or the photographer.

Let's broaden what we comment on during the feedback process.

2024 Programs (so far)

March: Clare Curtin – Tips for People Images
April: Bob Daugherty – Flower Art

Photo Topics for 2024

(Special-S; Challenge-C)

March 4: S – Structures; C – Hi-key/Lo-key
April 1: S – People; C – Conveying Action
May 6: S – Flowers; C – Artistic Flowers
June: Annual Competition; Date TBD
September 9: S – Bokeh; C – Moon Shots
October 7: S – Waterfowl; C – Birds/composition
November 4: S – Fall Colors; C – Unusual subjects
December 2: S – Back-lighting; C – Starbursts



© Clare Curtin

Meet the SVPS Board

Meet the SVPS Board Members

Officers

President: Reed James
Vice President: Scott Wilson
Treasurer: Leslie Larson
Secretary: Clare Curtin

Members at Large

Tim Laughlin
Kevin Crafts (website)
Cathy Cook (newsletter)

This club is for you.

There are many ways to get involved, such as giving a program, leading a field trip, helping with events, etc.

Please consider volunteering.

WELCOME

*to new and returning SVPS members.
We welcome all photographers, from beginners to professional.
We can learn from each other.*

ST. VRAIN PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
SVPS
LONGMONT, COLORADO



**Tim Laughlin,
Member At-large**

SVPS WELCOMES
these two new
Board Members

Tim was born and raised in Colorado and is a licensed and practicing architect who enjoyed a brief introduction to photography during college before the advent of digital cameras. Many years later he purchased his first DSLR camera. The initial interest to document an event began to mature into a desire to tell a story about something more. The allure of photography is the freedom to create without being bound by the rules and regulations of building and zoning codes.

Over the last several years Tim has focused on landscape, nightscape, and adventure photography. He relishes any opportunity to travel to faraway places, but he appreciates the western U.S. of four seasons and an ever-changing set of weather, lighting, cloud cover, color, and temperature conditions. The opportunities to find an image are only limited by how often he can get away from the office.

Kevin moved to the Longmont area in 2004 and got his first Canon DSLR 6 months later. He enjoys many types of photography but can frequently be found photographing local birds and nature areas. Kevin has been a member of SVPS since December 2022. As a new Board member, Kevin is helping SVPS keep the club website up to date and add new features to improve the publicity and opportunities for involvement within the club.



Kevin Crafts, Website

PHOTO TIPS for Action Photography

- Learn the key moments of a sport or activity.
- Anticipate where the peak action will occur.
- Be ready to freeze action by prefocusing and waiting.
- Try different angles and panning.
- Leave space for the person to look or move into.
- Check the background.
- Create separation and blur the background unless it adds to the story.
- Crop out anything that does not add to the story (e.g. get tight enough on the key action)
- Try to capture facial expressions, not just actions (e.g. the joy of winning).



© Clare Curtin



© Clare Curtin

Black & White Photography Class

In the interest of continuing our focus on education in photography, we are working with Murth Murthy to lead a photo class on B&W photography.

Please let us know if you are interested ASAP so we can set a date and find the appropriate location for the class.

Email: svpscameraclub@gmail.com