

**APRIL
2024**

go-svps.com

St. Vrain Photographic Society Newsletter

April Meeting

Join us for the SVPS
club meeting.

Monday, APRIL 1

6:30 to 9:00 pm

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

April Special & Challenge Categories

Special Topic: *People*

Challenge Topic:
Conveying Action

*(See submission
guidelines on the SVPS
website – link at the
bottom of page 1)*

May Meeting (May 6)

**Program – Railroad
Images of Colorado
with Samuel E.
Howard**

Special Topic:
Flowers

Challenge Topic:
Artistic Flowers

SVPS website:
go-svps.com



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April Program – Flower Art with Bob Daugherty

I started to do B&W photography in 1966, when I was 20. A friend and mentor helped me develop my first roll of 35mm film; Kodak Tri-x. I have used a Leica M3, a Nikon F, a 4x5 view camera, and a Pentax 6x7 SLR. During those years, I laboriously did my own developing and printing. I worked as a Software Engineer at IBM for 30 years, working on large mainframe computers and Unix servers in development labs. After I retired in 2012, I had more time to devote to photography. When the digital cameras came out, I said that I would never use them. But I later broke down and bought a Nikon D200. Several years back, I started using a D850, which is my main camera now. I started out as a landscape photographer, but with my first SLR, was able to do more close-up work. I enjoy taking floral pictures, as flowers just amaze me with their intricate beauty. They are a source of never-ending subject material.

A few years ago, I took a Flower Workshop from Kathleen Clemons. During that workshop I learned how to add a textured background to a flower photo. In this presentation, I want to demonstrate how I do some of my Flower Art. I will talk about how your flower subject helps you choose the background, and how the two must work together. A few of you have asked how I do my Texture tricks, so I will introduce you to using those techniques in your photos. Texture can be a new source of creativity, a new fine arts experience and opportunity.

(See page 2 for Bob's tips on "Texturing")

SVPS Great Frame Up (GFU) Exhibit & Sale 430 Main St., Longmont

Date of Show: *April 12 (Reception, 5-8 pm) to June 7, 2024*

JOIN US for our second-year exhibit and sale at the Great Frame Up

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 April 1.

Photo Submission Rules are on the SVPS website: <https://go-svps.com/monthly-showcase-rules>

Texturing - If you are interested in doing some of your own Texturing, here are a few suggestions: Read the "Tips for Texturing Photographs," a very good brief introduction to texturing photos.
<https://digital-photography-school.com/tips-for-texturing-photographs/#more-24185>
View the "Flypaper" web site. The "Blog" and "Tutorials" sections have examples and how-to info. The "Links" section has a number of WEB sites that have examples of Textured images.
<https://flypapertextures.com/>
View the Pexels web site for FREE texture!
<https://www.pexels.com/search/texture/>

All Photo Textures have two components.

1. Color and
2. Texture

Color will overpower the texture portion every time. Your eye reacts to the color portion, and you will tend to make your decision based on color. Look at them in B&W to see what the real "texture" is. Remember that you can always change the color of the texture by using the Photoshop "Hue/Saturation" and "Color Balance" adjustment layers.

Steps for trying out textures:

- 1 - Select a picture you want to try in Photoshop.
- 2 - Add a texture to a new top Layer. Set Opacity to 50% and set the blend mode to Soft Light. Most likely, you will not like what you see, but experiment with the different Blend modes - Soft Light, Overlay, Multiple, Screen and Hard Light. Vary the Opacity to change the strength of the texture blend mode.
- Try adding a layer mask to remove/reduce the texture from the main portion of your picture
- 3 - Duplicate the above Layer. But this time change the blend mode to Multiple. Try other blend modes and opacities also.
- 4 - Adjust both texture layers for different blend modes and opacity. Remember that the Multiple and Soft Light blend modes work well together.
- 5 - What should you be looking for? I can't tell you, as you will have to discover that for yourself. Discovering the right Texture/Blend Mode is an exciting discovery process, and only you can make that journey. Keep trying!

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

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. Identify the elements that could be stronger or are distracting and give specific, constructive ideas on how to improve their photos in the future.
3. End your feedback by expressing something that you like about the photograph.
4. Critique the image, not the subject or the photographer.

Image Analysis:

Technical Excellence
Composition
Lighting
Center of Interest
Color Balance
Impact
Storytelling
Creativity

2024 Programs

May: Railroad Images of Colorado
June: Annual Awards Celebration
Sept.: Wildlife Composition

2024 Photo Topics

(Special-S; Challenge-C)

May 6: S – Flowers; C – Artistic Flowers
June 8: Annual Awards Celebration
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



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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)

WELCOME

to new and returning SVPS members.

We welcome all photographers, from beginners to professional.

We can learn from each other.

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.

svpscameraclub@gmail.com



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**Cathy Cook,
Member At-large
& Newsletter
Editor**

I was born in South Dakota and grew up in eastern Kansas. My art and photography journey began with my parents - Dad, a Renaissance man who was interested in everything, including photography, and Mom, a skilled artist with an eye for color and design. As an adult, I took photos of family, holidays, and summer trips, but full-time work, university, raising a family, and work in the community rarely allowed time to pursue my growing interest in photography and photo art. With a degree in business, I had a number of work experiences – paralegal working on complex environmental issues, Director of Government Affairs, lobbyist, creator of a community leadership program, a program on business-education partnerships, and a political action institute to train people to run for public office. I also coordinated the land acquisition and building of a large community park, and a number of other local and state-wide work and volunteer projects over many years.

After meeting my husband, Donn, in New Zealand in 1998, I retired and purchased my first Nikon DSLR to practice photography during our travels around the country and the world. I joined SVPS in 2006 and have learned so much from many members of this photo club. I now use a Nikon Z8. Nature and art are two of my life passions. As a natural born wanderer, the exploration and discovery through photography fuels my passion for wandering and opens my eyes to new ways of looking at the world.

Reminder for people pictures:

- Make sure the person's face is all in the shade or all in the light.
- Diffused/soft light is flattering.
- One body part needs to be at a 45- or 90-degree angle, or the head needs to be tilted.
- The eyes must be in focus and sharp.
- Make sure the chin is up, otherwise it looks like the person has no neck.
- Consider using centered-eye composition.
- Avoid cutting the body off at joints.



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JUNE AWARDS CELEBRATION and MAY PHOTO DEADLINE

Our June meeting will be the annual awards banquet. We will cater the basics and request that members bring sides or desserts. It will be at the church (in a different room at the other end) on June 8th from 6 to 8:30. Set-up begins around 5:30.

These are the categories for the competition:

1. Scenic – landscapes or cityscapes
2. Animals – wild or domestic
3. Plants - any type
4. People – doing anything, or portraits
5. Reptiles, amphibians, or insects
6. Birds
7. Open – ONLY for those that can't fit in another category
8. Creative – Obviously manipulated or B&W or monochrome.

Members can submit up to 6 photos, but only 1 in each category. Submissions are due by May 10th on the Google Docs links sent out by Reed so we can get them to the judges.

The photo submission rules are the same as the monthly showcase. Size: 2048 pixels on the longest side. Title your photos: your name-title.jpg.

Black & White Photography Class

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