

St. Vrain Photographic Society

N ♦ E ♦ W ♦ S ◁ ▷ L ♦ E ♦ T ♦ T ♦ E ♦ R

Visit our website at: www.go-svps.org

President:

Cindy Payler
307-899-4600
cpayler@gmail.com

Vice-President:

Mark Payler
303-956-5801
mpayler@gmail.com

Secretary:

Cliff DeJong
303-776-0655
cliffdejong@gmail.com

Treasurer:

Karen Samblanet
720-289-7150
ksamrun@q.com



November 2, 2015
Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be **Monday, November 2, 2015, 6:30 PM** in the **Fireside Room**, First Congregational United Church of Christ, 9th & Francis Streets in Longmont.

Enter through the west door on the north side of the building.

Our meeting will start at 6:30 with a short activity called "Anything Goes". Our program starts at 7PM, and features Tom Bol, an adventure photographer.

INSIDE...

Committees.....	2
How to submit photos.....	3
October Results.....	4
2015 Meeting Schedule.....	5
2015 Photo Topics.....	5
Photography Tips & Tricks...6	
Workshops.....	7

President's Message

It is said you know you are a photographer when....there are 30,000 family photos neatly categorized in Lightroom and zero photos of yourself! Many of you probably can relate to that dilemma. For years I took care of the family needs while my husband took care of the family documentation. We have slides, prints, negatives, albums, books, mugs, and digital archives neatly stored on the cloud galore. The percentage of photographer portraits verses children, spouse, parents and siblings is grossly disproportional. Sometimes we just forget to document the picture taker and sometimes they are stubborn in their cooperation to be recorded. Taking a picture of the artist who demands perfection is a daunting task.

How can we remedy this problem? Make photography a family hobby! Buy your children and grandchildren cameras and teach them at a young age the joy of photography. Make some of your special times together the ones you share your knowledge and passion. They will learn to appreciate what you do and learn how to improve their skills along with you. The education of photography is one that can be taught for a lifetime

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



of enjoyment and does not need to be bottled up like a secret potion.

Not everyone is going to embrace it as a career, but everyone likes to document good, not bad, photographs, especially in this digital age when it is so accessible to easily create, modify and store.

What about your spouse? Your siblings? Your parents? Encourage them to join you too! Invite them to one of our SVPS monthly meetings! Even if they don't want to submit photos, they can learn to enjoy what others have taken and appreciate what has been achieved. Hobbies are so much more enjoyable when shared with others and your family members should not be an exception. It actually could result in more equitable distribution of family member photographs in your archives. Everyone can be a part of the family history. Smile, you're going to be on candid camera too!

Committees and Chairpersons

Here are the folks who have stepped forward to help keep our club running smoothly. Feel free to contact them if they can assist you in any way.

Programs - Cindy and Mark Payler

Hospitality - JoAnn and Jim Bell

Website & Digital Entries - Gerry Cragun

Equipment (projector, easel, lights, cords, etc.) - Paulette & Larry McGimsey, John Roper, Murth Murthy

Scoring Equipment - John & Barb Roper

Membership - Karen Samblanet & Cliff DeJong

Photo Exhibits/Venues - John Roper, Barb Roper & Ann Stringe

Field Trips - Diane Kaiser

County Fair Photo Exhibit - John & Barb Roper

Newsletter - Cliff DeJong (Back-up - Phil Samblanet, John Roper)

Judges - Cindy Payler, Mark Payler

Workshops - Murth Murthy, Cliff DeJong

November Special Topic: “Delicate”, Challenge Topic: “Architecture”

Photos will be Judged. (For months where photos are judged, guidelines are posted on the club website. From the Home Page, select “Information—>Guidelines for Judging” to view them.)

[PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!]

FOR OUR REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS:

For the upcoming year, there will be Judging/Critiquing months as well as Show/Tell/Commentary months. Please check the newsletter and the SVPS website for more information on the schedule. No more than a **total of four digital images** may be entered in the following categories:

- Special Topic of the Month (zero to one image)
- Challenge Topic (zero to one image)
- Open category (zero to **two** images)
- Creative (zero to one image). (You do NOT have to submit entries in all categories.)

Digital images should be no larger than 2048 in the greater dimension and should be submitted as a .JPG attachment to an email to **Gerry Cragun at go@craguns.net**, no later than the **Thursday** prior to the meeting. **Late entries will not be accepted!**

New members are encouraged to enter photographs.

Please submit photos each month only after receipt of the newsletter. This is because there may be changes in category definitions, where to send photos, etc.

SVPS is on the Web!

Check out our Website at:

www.go-svps.org

(It's cool...)

Digital submittal rules for St. Vrain Photographic Society

1. File type: jpg

Naming convention:

- Classification (1 for Beginner/Intermediate; 2 for Advanced photographer)
- Category (**O** for Open, **S** for Special, **U** for Creative, and **Y** for Challenge)
- Photographer's name (blank spaces are allowed)
- Photo title (blank spaces are allowed)
- Category, photographer's name and photo title separated by a dash (-)

General example: [ClassificationCategory]-[Photographer]-[Title].jpg

Specific example: 2O-Cliff DeJong-Old House at Night.jpg

Photographer Name and Photo Title together should be no more than 45 characters. DO NOT use underscore or special characters (except dash).

3. Size: Digital images no larger than 2048 pixels in the larger dimension

4. E-mail photos to **<Gerry Cragun at go@craguns.net>**. Submit by Thursday night before the Monday meeting. (Example: October 29th for November 2 meeting). Submitters should get confirmation by Saturday evening that their photos were received. If not, please call and/or re-submit. No digital entries will be accepted after the Thursday deadline except in unusual circumstances by special arrangement with Gerry Cragun. **NO** digital entries will be accepted at the club meeting. For questions contact Gerry Cragun at (303)772-4654.

October Results

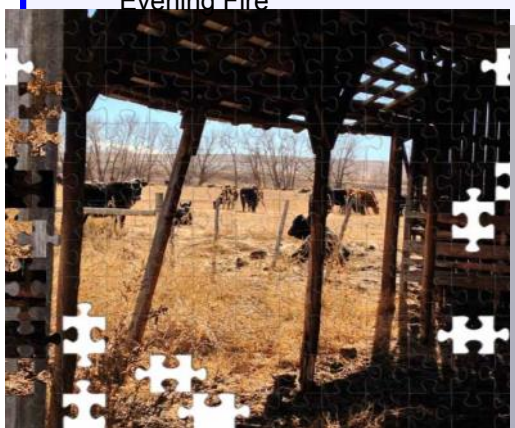
Photos were **Show and Tell**. Some sample pictures are shown below (choosing was difficult, as there were so many great pictures!). To see all of the June results, plus important club information and other cool stuff, go to our website at <www.go-svps.org>.



Adv : John Roper
"Evening Fire"



Adv : Vicki Braunagel
"Moonrise Over Denver"



Adv: Beth Bonnicksen
"Cow Shed Jig-Saw"



Adv: Phil Samblanet
"Out The Back Door"



Adv :
Gerry Cragun
"Paraglider Sunrise"

Adv:
Ann Murthy
"Three of a Kind"



2015-16 SVPS Meeting Schedule

Activities begin at 6:30pm

Your program chairs have been working hard to create informative and entertaining discussions and programs. The following events are confirmed for 2015:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opening Activity</u>	<u>Program</u>
Nov 2	Anything Goes	Tom Bol/Action, Adventure Photography
Dec 7	Robert Morrissey on iPhone Book	Max Seigal/Nature, Wildlife Photography – Beginner's Showcase
Jan 4	Charades	Chris Brown/Landscape and the American West
Feb 1	Guess Where	Bob Maynard/National Parks and Monuments
Mar 7	How I Shot My Favorite Photo	Weldon Lee/Wildlife
Apr 4	Trick Photography	Richard Van Pelt/Colorado and Historic Photo Processes
May 2	TBA	PhotoFix and/or another idea I have...
June TBD		Annual Competition and Potluck

Suggestions

We welcome YOUR input on program ideas, field trips, workshops and ways we can improve the club to make it more beneficial to you, the members. Email your suggestions to **Cindy Payler** : <cpayler@gmail.com>.

Also let us know if you would be willing to lead a field trip, give a program or workshop, facilitate a discussion or become more active in the club as a committee member, an officer, or in any other way.

2015-16 Special & Challenge Photo Topics

A monthly photo topic AND a challenge topic help all of us stretch our photographic abilities.

Month	Special Topic	Challenge Topic*	Type
November	Delicate	Architecture	Judged
December	B & W	Selfie	Show/Tell
January	Best Shot Taken in December	Incredible Eyes	Judged
February	Winter Blues	Still Life	Show/Tell
March	Symmetrical	Night Time	Judged
April	Abstract	Wet	Judged
May	Photo Fix	Photo Fix	Show/Tell
June	Annual Competition	Annual Competition	

Photography Tips and Tricks

The idea behind this section is for members to submit your own tips and tricks you would like to share with the club members. The subject can be anything from software editing tips to camera setups for doing macro, astrophotography, portrait, Bokeh or camera use tips (brand and model specific with enough detail for others to follow along step by step) . Please send your submissions each month to me, Mark Payler, at <mpayler@gmail.com>, and I will try to get all of them included each month

Mark Payler

Photoshop Photos ?

In October, Murth Murthy gave an interesting talk about Photoshop and showed how to use it for some interesting edits, some which were magic! It occurred to me that it might be informative to share my experience on what can and cannot be fixed in Photoshop with basic adjustments. I am not at all an expert like Murth, but I use it often.

Murth showed how you can use content-aware deletes to get rid of something you don't want in the photo. I left a backpack right in the middle of a gorgeous waterfall scene and didn't notice it until I was home. Content aware rescued me from wasting a trip!

Exposure can be adjusted some after the photo is taken, and shadows/highlights can be improved. I use the Camera RAW filter for this, even on JPGs. Of course, if you have taken the photo in RAW format, there is more room for adjustments of this type. You can change the white balance by using a Tint slider in Camera RAW, or pick a preset (Shade, Cloudy, etc.) if you have RAWs to work with.

Composition can often be improved by cropping, and a non-level horizon can easily be straightened.

What you cannot do in Photoshop is most of the above if you missed it badly when taking the photo. Changing exposure more than a stop and brightening shadows can bring out noise quickly. Highlights can be reduced, alleviating blown out areas, but only if your exposure is close to start with. Color balance for JPGs is also hard to fix. Changing composition by trying to back away from the subject can be done on location, but not by Photoshop.

Content-aware deletes work well if there is some type of pattern around the unwanted object, but not well in complicated, non-patterned regions.

You cannot fix a blurred subject. The newer Photoshop versions have a motion blur filter, and it does a remarkable job, but I have yet to see it work well enough to rescue a badly blurred item. I have used it when I have a soft photo and it gets better, but not great.

Photoshop can improve the punch of a photo by adjustments in contrast, saturation and noise. You can change the tint of a sunset or sunrise a little before it starts looking phony. There is also a filter to reduce atmospheric haze that works well. However you cannot fix the harsh contrast of a photo taken in the middle of the day in bright sunshine.

The message I have learned is that Photoshop will do some great things to your photos, but almost all repairs are not as good as if you got it right in the first place. When you take photos, take the time to compose carefully, get the right exposure and white balance, and learn the techniques of getting sharp photos. And then, take RAW photos if possible. Go out in good light; either early or late in the day, or on a cloudy day.

SVPS Student Scholarship Award

We have established a scholarship award of \$500 each year to one student from the St. Vrain School District, planning to enroll in a 2 or 4 year photography degree program of higher education in the fall directly after graduation from high school. Applicants submit an application with a personal essay, and six photographic images of recent work.

For further details, contact Cindy Payler at <cpayler@gmail.com>

Workshops and Other Opportunities

Mike's Camera

Seminars and help sessions: <<http://mikescamera.com/>>.

Rocky Mountain Conservancy (formerly Rocky Mountain Nature Association)

Seminars and field trips: <www.rmconservancy.org>

Compass Bank Display

To display framed photos at Compass Bank, please contact **John Roper** at <jmroper@prodigy.net>. Photos may be left for one or two months and may be offered for sale if a price is included.

Display Opportunity

The new coffeehouse on Main Street, THE BREW is looking for artwork to display on their walls - and they have lots of room! The crepes are delicious (Cindy and I had the chocolate) and the coffee divine. Contact Adam at the restaurant for information and details. He is also planning on special art topic nights so we might think about how we could join in!