St. Vrain Photographic Society

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December 7, 2015
Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be **Monday, December 7, 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 show of the summer scavenger hunt entries. Our program starts at 7PM, and features Robert Morrissey, speaking on iPhone photography.

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President's Message

I believe the quickest way to make money at photography is to sell your camera. Most of us don't go into this hobby to make " boat-loads" of money. In fact, we probably invest much more into equipment, paper, mats, printing and framing than we could ever recover from the investment. Someone who is not a photo buff may question our passion or mark it off as a crazy obsession without any gain.

Photography is an art form and art brings joy. How can you explain the excitement that generates in your system while you're photographing a beautiful sunset or a rare wildlife siting? You often capture a moment that can never be replayed, and in that second, your adrenaline runs high and you savor every fleeting change. The beauty of this sport is that it never disappears. You can take a look at your results over and over. You can play with them like a never ending Monopoly game, perfecting and building while growing bigger and bigger capital.

But the best part of photography is that it can be and it is meant to be shared with one another. St. Vrain Photographic

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Society strives to help you with venues to continue displaying your love of prints. We encourage you to submit every month so we can learn from each other. We sponsor field trips to share, annual competitions, social/website media, and continually announce opportunities to show your work throughout the Longmont area. We hope we can become as much of an inspiration to you as your work is to others.

Don't be shy this holiday season as you pull out your favorite camera. You may not be selling your prints but this is the time to document friends, family and loved ones in ways you will never have the opportunity again. Then, when you fall in love with your most favorite shot, submit it in January. Share with us your December memories.

May you all have a blessed holiday season capturing JOY.

-**Cindy Payler**

New Members Gallery

At our December meeting, we will showcase photos from our newest members. If you have joined SVPS in the past year, send four of your best photos to Gerry Cragun <go@craguns.net>, on or before Thursday, December 3. This is in addition to your monthly entries.

The usual rules (see Page 3) apply: not larger than 2048 pixels in the larger dimension, etc. Use category NM. We look forward to seeing your photos!!

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

December Special Topic: "B&W", Challenge Topic: "Selfie"

Photos will be Show and Tell. (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).

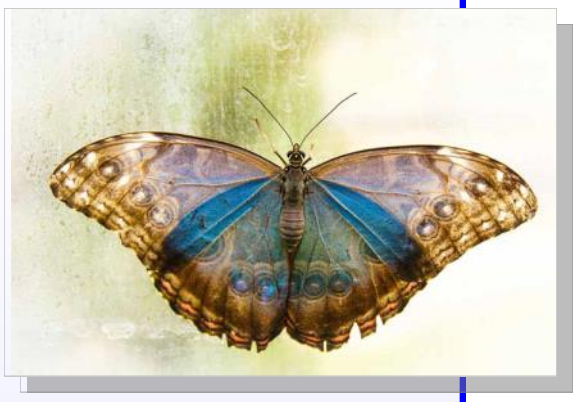
3. Size: Digital images no larger than 2048 pixels in the larger dimension
4. E-mail photos to **<Gerry Cragun at go@craguns.net>**. Submit by Thursday night before the Monday meeting. (Example: December 3rd for December 7 meeting). Submitters should get confirmation by Saturday evening that their photos 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.

November Results

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

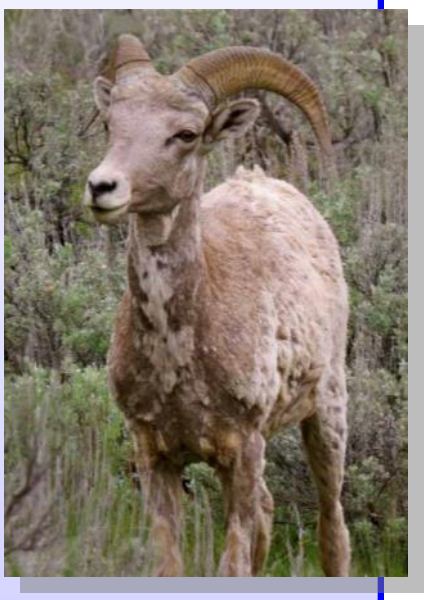
Adv : Mark Payler
"Blue"

Adv : Caleb Cook
"Delicate Drifter"



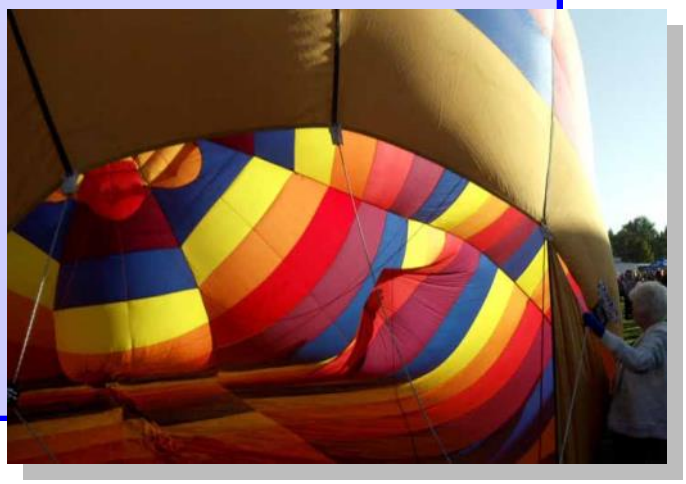
Adv: Leslie Larson
"Tulum Hideaway"

Adv: Art Danby
"Yellowstone Bighorn"



Adv :
Kamen Guentchev
"Child Playing at Fountain"

Beg/Int:
Susan Steven
"Getting Ready for Lift Off"



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:

Date	Opening Activity	Program
Dec 7	**Scavenger Hunt**	**Robert Morrissey on iPhone Book**
	Photos	**New Member's Gallery**
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
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	

*The Challenge Topic is to encourage us to get out and learn something new about our cameras and shooting techniques.

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

Defining Your Style

I recently saw a video on Facebook where six photographers were given the task of photographing the same man. They were all told different stories about him: he was a recently released inmate; he was a self-made millionaire, etc. None of them knew about the others. The result was very interesting in that all six took very different photos of the same person. One made the subject look sinister, another projected power, and so on. Canon Australia was the sponsor, and concluded that "A photograph is shaped more by the person behind the camera than what's in front of it."

Well, maybe. If they had been given the same information about the subject and came up with different photos, then that would prove the point more to me. But I have seen the same phenomena many times when I have seen photographers side by side, taking different views of the same scene. A recent example of this to all of us was the local scavenger hunt, where we went about the church meeting room and took photos in search of circles, letters, etc. Other times, on field trips, we all go to the same place at the same time, and bring home different photos.

On reflection, I started to think about how each of us has a personal style, whether intentional or not. Our style may be defined by our photo subjects and/or how we process our photos. All of us in the club know that a photo of a hot car with flames and other Photoshop enhancements most likely was done by Caleb Cook. A grizzly photo is most likely mine. Many times I have sat in our club monthly photo shows and thought, "xxx took that", and often I am right.

There are two opportunities to have a personal style: when capturing the photo and when processing it. Last spring, Sarah Roshan was our speaker and she talked about defining our photography with three words: hers were romance and two others—I've forgotten!! However, I have thought long and hard about my three words. So far, I am leaning toward passion, technical, and nature. Passion refers to my attitude to focus heavily on whatever interests me at the moment. Technical is about getting the proper exposure and sharpness, and photoshop manipulation. Nature, for me, is mostly wildlife and night scenes. When I told my wife about these, she noted that they apply to me, not just my photography.

So, what is your style? What matters to you? Defining your style will help you decide what to focus on and will give you a more personal connection to your photography. Think about this and discuss it with someone who knows you. Defining your style is worthwhile and can direct your efforts.

Cliff DeJong

December Newsletter-Bits and Pieces

SAVE THE DATES: June 8-13 will be our SVPS Summer Field Trip. This year we will be traveling to the Grand Tetons and Yellowstone. I lived near the east gate of Yellowstone for 33 years and I can guarantee you there are a multitude of photographic opportunities in the area. The wildlife abounds and the hot springs are indescribable. A variety of accommodations will be at Colter Bay in the Grand Tetons and in the town of West Yellowstone. Both areas are comfortable and close to National Park opportunities. Don't miss the chance to shoot pictures and "shoot the bull" with each other!

If you missed the opportunity to join the club at the "View of the World Gallery" in Boulder this October, it is open by appointment. Contact Kathy Coyne at coynekathy@comcast.net or 303-499-7703. Special thanks to the Murthy's for arranging this worthwhile gallery tour for us. Approximately 30 members and guests enjoyed the "view", snacks, and each other. Now we all want to be travel photographers more than ever!

We need your pictures! Did you know we have a Facebook page? This is a page open to the public and administered by our own member, Dan Tabor. If you have photographs you would like to share with others, this is an easy way for you to publish them and get some positive "likes". We are listed under St. Vrain Photographic Society. Let's help get our name circulating and enjoy each other's photographic efforts at the same time.

Our next meeting is in December and that means the holidays are among us. Let's make this meeting a festive occasion. We are asking members to come a little early and please bring a holiday snack to share with each other as we bring in the season with goodies and good wishes.

We are prepared for elections of new SVPS officers this December. Please come to our next meeting and participate in the vote. We appreciate everyone who contributes to the continued organization of our photo society. Being an intimate part of the preparation makes your involvement even more meaningful.

Member Accomplishments: Did you hear that Cliff DeJong took first place for one of his wonderful bear photographs at the Great Frame Up in Longmont? Also, member Susan Steven won for one of her art pieces. In addition, plan on visiting St. Stephen's church to view the gallery show of 22 photography pieces displayed by Murth and AnnaMarie Murthy. Additional photo space is also available for members to show at St. Stephen's in March and April. Such talent we have!

If you are interested in a SVPS gallery show at the Darkroom downtown, let Cindy Payler know to accumulate names. The total cost is $300 for our organization but with many members participating we could make it a reasonable cost per member. Photos displayed are also available for sale.

- **Cindy Payler, President**

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>

2016 SVPS Field Trip

There is a club field trip planned for June 8-13, 2016 to the Grand Tetons and Yellowstone. On June 8, we will leave at 8 Am from Johnson's Corner. June 8 and 9 will be spent photographing Grand Teton National Park, and June 11-12 we will photograph Yellowstone National Park. We return to Denver June 13.

There are many options for camping and hotels/motels at Colter Bay Village and at West Yellowstone.

For now, save the dates. There is more info coming.

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!

Exhibit At St Stephen's Church

Lynne Lemmer, coordinator for the art exhibits at St. Stephen's, would like to invite members of the St. Vrain Photo club to exhibit their work in their narthex, front and side halls sometime in March 2016.

Your work will be exhibited for at least two months. Please be prepared to have your framed work ready for hanging, plus business cards with title of your photo, along with the price of your work. You have to hang the work yourself. 30% of sale price would be a donation to St Stephen's.

If you are interested in hanging your work, contact Lynne Lemmer at lynnelemmer@gmail.com and she will coordinate your exhibit hanging. Because of the large number pieces required, several members can get together.

Currently Murth and I have 25 pieces (along with a St. Stephen's member's art work) on exhibit until the end of December. Lynne likes to mix photography with other mediums.

If you get a chance, please stop by St. Stephen's any time during the day to see our exhibit. If you have any questions, call us at 303-776-8923.

– ***Ann Marie & Murth Murthy***