

St. Vrain Photographic Society

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

President:

Cindy and Mark Payler
307-899-4600
cpayler@gmail.com
mpayler@gmail.com

Vice-President:

Todd Towell
720-841-8954
ttcubed@gmail.com

Secretary:

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

Treasurer:

Sallie Sprague
303-651-2047
saspra@earthlink.com



March 7, 2016
Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be **Monday, March 7, 2016, 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 slide show of photos submitted in February. Our program starts at 7PM, and features Weldon Lee, speaking on Wildlife.

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President's Message

It could be said, whether you are a creationist or evolutionist, it cannot be denied how we have observed photography change and progress over the centuries.. From it's invention in the 1800's, photography was born with the principle of the camera obscura and promptly moved into daguerreotypes and film negatives. What was once black and white, became color. What was once 8 by 10, became instamatic. What was once analog, became digital. It should not come as a surprise that photography continues to revolutionize history with the digital age.

Stephen Mayes, author of "The Next Revolution in Photography is Coming" an article in Time Magazine, states "In the future, there is no such thing as a straight photograph." The difference is the digital image is now infinitely flexible. The camera processors alone manipulate our reality as our image is changed from RAW to JPEG to TIF. What was once known as "virgin images", have been transformed by the computer process. This is seen as the camera being converted as a picture making device to a data collecting device. This allows our images to be limitless beyond documentation. The potential is incomprehensible.

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Think of your computational photographs as something you know rather than just something you see. Art has always been controversial in our history. Consider the controversy surrounding the time of Picasso's Cubism or even Andy Warhol's Pop Art. Our revolution in photography has not been driven by the photographers but by telephone engineers! Photography has reached our imaginations beyond the two dimensions we have become accustomed to in our lives.

Some of us may choose to continue our love of photography kicking and screaming as purists and traditionalists. On the other hand, we may decide to embrace the possibilities, stretch our depths of artistry and think of photography differently in order to use it differently. It is exciting times.

Membership Dues

Our membership dues are payable for the new year. Dues are \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family. If you have not paid, bring cash or a check payable to SVPS to the March meeting and give it to Sallie Sprague.

This is a bargain!!

Newsletter Inputs. If you have an item you think is of interest to our members, give me a Word document, ready to go. The newsletter is distributed the Sunday eight days before the meeting, so I need any inputs the Wednesday before that, or 12 days before the meeting. Thanks!! CliffDeJong@Gmail.com

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 - Todd Towell

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 - Sallie Sprague & 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 - John Roper)

A/C Judges - Cindy Payler, Mark Payler

Workshops - Murth Murthy, Cliff DeJong, Dan Taber

March Special Topic: “Symmetrical”, Challenge Topic: “Night Time”

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: March 3rd for March 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.

February Results

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



Beg/Int: Arlan Dohrmann
"Winter Cottonwood Dreamscape"



Adv: Cindy Payler
"Buried"



Beg/Int: Bev Walkington
"Winter's Window"

Adv: Barb Ropoer
"Partners"



Adv : Robert Daugherty
"Tulip Glow"



Adv : Leslie Larson
"Chilly Feet"



2016 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 2016:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Opening Activity</u>	<u>Program</u>
Mar 7	February Photos Show	Weldon Lee/Wildlife
Apr 4	Trick Photography	Richard Van Pelt/Colorado and Historic Photo Processes
May 2	Photofix	PhotoFix...
June		Annual Competition and Potluck
July, August	Summer Break	
Sept 12	TBD	John Freeman/Panoramas
Oct 3	TBD	TBD
Nov 7	TBD	Scavenger Hunt/Field Trips
Dec 5	Holiday Mixer	TBD

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.

2016 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
L			
March	Symmetrical	Night Time	Judged
April	Abstract	Wet	Judged
May	Photo Fix	Photo Fix	Show/Tell
June	Annual Competition	Annual Competition	
July, August	Summer Break		
Sep	Summer	Shadows	Show/Tell
Oct	Body Parts	Bad Weather	Judged
Nov	Curves	Culture	Show/Tell
Dec	Annual Competition and Potluck		

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

Meet Our New Officers

Vice President Todd Towell

By profession I am veterinarian. I practiced in referral veterinary specialty centers as a small animal internal medicine specialist before starting a career with Hill's Pet Nutrition. As the global technical lead for new product launches I spent many years spinning around the world. All those glimpses of far away places sparked my interest in photography. Since retiring in 2014 I have begun to pursue photography as more than a hobby. Since I am still quite a novice, I enjoy learning new approaches to capturing the world around us. I don't yet have a specific 'focus' for my work but suspect it will gravitate towards portraits / street photography and perhaps studio work with macro lenses if I ever clean out the basement enough to have a studio.

Treasurer Sallie Sprague

Sallie has been making photos since grade school. Despite varied and diverse career activities, she maintained her interest in photography. Building on her scientific training, she has documented a variety of environmental and ecological volunteer and research efforts - in the Pacific Northwest, and for Smithsonian scientists in Costa Rica and Guyana. She has worked as a natural history guide in Alaska, a technical and scientific editor and writer, and a documentary still photographer. She enjoys botanical photography and the challenge of making a flower photo resemble a George O'Keefe painting.

Most recently she managed a long-term ecological research project at CSU where she was responsible to a dozen senior scientists for the smooth functioning of a multi-institutional effort to investigate all aspects of the ecology of the shortgrass steppe/prairie. In this position she photographed the plants, animals, landscapes and people conducting research whenever she could escape from the office where she managed the budget for all things necessary for the field research.

Her photo interests still include macro botanical subjects as well as natural history and nature in general, but preferably subjects that don't run away from the photographer! Currently she's investigating all those manipulative things you can do to a photo with an iPhone as well as traditional nature photography

SVPS Field Trips

As the weather warms, my thoughts turn to field trips—going to a great location with other photographers and seeing their creative touch on a beautiful subject. The June field trip is already planned (see below). We would like to know from you what other field trips would be of interest. These would be organized, but not led by anyone. Beginners are certainly welcome and encouraged to join in; we would learn from each other. Here are some ideas so far:

Colorado Columbines
Waterfalls
Night Stars (Lake Irene in RMNP)
City Scapes (like Sloans Lake at night)
Flowers
Old Fall River Road
Other ???

March Newsletter-Bits and Pieces

The Website has been updated: go.svps.org

Please contact your SVPS officers if you are interested in being a part of one of our committees. According to our guidelines we have the following standing committees: programs, membership, publicity, media specialist, hospitality, exhibits, education, historian/librarian, community service and nominating. Become an integral part of your photography club! We would like your input on field trips you are interested in organizing. Please let Cindy Payler know so we can compile a list of possibilities.

Schools in the St. Vrain area have been sent information related to our desire to provide a photography scholarship to a graduating senior pursuing education in the field. We are anxious to hear from any applicants.

Dan Tabor is teaching a Lightroom class Saturday, March 26th in the Longmont Library from 12-3. Please contact him if interested.

Did you enjoy our past photo fix month? Are you interested in continuing? Do you have a photo you think would be worth using for the assignment? Let us know!

Thank you for your patience last month as we dealt with the unpredictability of Mother Nature. We missed meeting with everyone but also wanted to assure all our members remained safe and sound. Bob Maynard, our February guest speaker is happy to reschedule at a later date. If you were looking forward to seeing his perspective on National Parks and Monuments, we will do our best to have him back.

- **Cindy Payler, President**

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

Shade

Shade is a good thing – winter or summer. When you buy a new lens for that DSLR a shade may not come with it – and that is unfortunate. Or if you do have a shade, it's in your camera bag getting all banged up. Use a lens shade! The shade will keep, in some cases, lens flare from showing up on your photo, especially of the sun is just out of the frame. Keep the shade oriented correctly when mounting it on the lens; otherwise you risk getting vignetting on the edges of your images.

What's in your wallet?

I always carry business cards with me – I run an on-line Etsy shop (PaylerPhotoGraphics) and am always looking at marketing my prints. But I have found another use for my cards. Sometimes I may photograph a person, or a group of strangers, and I say to myself they may want a copy of the image I just captured. I will go over and present myself, and a card – and may show them the shot on my camera - and offer to send them the jpg image. I give the subject (s) a business card with my e-mail address and offer, for free, to send them a copy of the photograph if they just drop me a line so I can e-mail them the image. Vista Print (on-line and they always have special discount offers) produces high quality business cards at a reasonable cost, and I don't have to worry about carrying a pen and paper with me and spending valuable time writing down all sort of details.

Mark Payler

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.

For Colter Village RV Park, use Reservation # RGTLC8492 at 307-543-3100 or 800-628-9988. West Yellowstone KOA can be reached at 800-562-7591.

One of our female members would love to participate but does not have an RV. She would be willing to share costs for transportation and lodging.

See Diane Kaiser for details or the Yahoo Small Group.

Workshops and Other Opportunities

Mike's Camera

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

Rocky Mountain Conservancy

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!

More Opportunities

Shooting the Stars Workshop

Led by Glenn Randall. Come to Rocky Mountain National Park to learn how to make spectacular photographs of the Milky Way, star trails, lunar eclipses, and the aurora. These courses will focus primarily on techniques for finding and shooting the glowing heart of the Milky Way.

June 25-26, 2016 (Sold out! Please call 303 499-3009 or email to be put on the waiting list.)

August 27-28, 2016 (These two sessions will have identical content and are not sequential)

See www.glennrandall.com/workshops.html

National Geographic Adventure Photo Workshop

Benefit from daily instruction and critiques of your photographs provided by a top National Geographic adventure-sports photographer. Photograph thrill-seeking athletes as they tackle the rushing white water, deep canyons, and craggy peaks of the Rocky Mountains. Capture radiant light illuminating fascinating rock formations on an early morning trip to Chautauqua Park and a late afternoon visit to Eldorado Canyon. Explore the spectacular landscapes and wildlife of Rocky Mountain National Park. May 15-20, and Oct 2-7, 2016.

<http://www.nationalgeographicexpeditions.com/expeditions/rocky-mountain-national-park-boulder-colorado-photography-class/detail>