

# St. Vrain Photographic Society

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Visit our website at: [www.go-svps.org](http://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



*April 4, 2016*  
Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be **Monday, April 4, 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 Richard Van Pelt, speaking on Colorado and Historic Photo Processes.

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*President's Message*

*IN PRAISE OF PRINTS*

Where has the year gone? Here we are looking at the PhotoFix program (May) and right around the corner is the annual club competition in June. Another year has gone by with a lot of capturing of exciting new images – and sharing those memories with others. In this era of Instagram and Facebook we often forget the very early pre-digital days when the only way to view one's work was to look at prints. And those earlier "prints" came in many forms from daguerreotypes to tintypes – hardly paper prints at all.

Some of us may remember the magic of the darkroom (the *exact opposite* of today's Lightroom) and the first time we saw an image emerge under those dim yellow/red safelights. I remember the first time I went down to my dad's darkroom in the basement and witnessed my first print materializing in the Dektol developing solution – it just defied everything and was truly "magic"! And who can forget the smell of fixer on your hands and those hours-long long wash times before we either air dried or heated our silver-based images on a shiny surface print dryer. Oh those were the days...

Today we want instant gratification, but our print

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heritage runs deep. With the annual competition right around the corner I urge you to cast those digital files aside and return to our roots and experience the beauty and joy of printing your own images. Yes, I still dodge and burn on the computer much the same as I did when I enlarged negatives in the darkroom...but now I can “undo” a bad dodging job in seconds and not have to make another print and ruin yet another sheet of fairly expensive photo paper. And yes, my ink jet printer provides as much of the same “magic” today as watching the print emerge from a bath of developer of days gone by...

Now you may not have a slick 9 color printer and feel a little insecure in printing your own images. But know that you have plenty of company as well as options. From the corner drugstore to the big box discount retailers, prints are a mere click away – and those same labs still utilize traditional photo chemical processes...and oh those prints! There is nothing more gratifying than sharing a paper print with a group of photographers and admirers. So this year, when you consider entering the upcoming annual competition I urge you to **enter prints**...go that extra mile...share the same joy that are the very foundation of photography – to show the world as only you can!

Cheers! And keep snappin’ and (hopefully) printing!

**-Mark Payler**

*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

## April Special Topic: “Abstract”, Challenge Topic: “Wet”

Photos will be critiqued by our speaker. (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](http://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 31st for April 4 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.

## March 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](http://www.go-svps.org).



**Adv: Vicki Braunagel**  
"Organ Pipe Cactus at Sunset"

**Adv : John Roper**  
"Irish Garden"



**Adv: Kamen Guentchev**  
"The Plant"

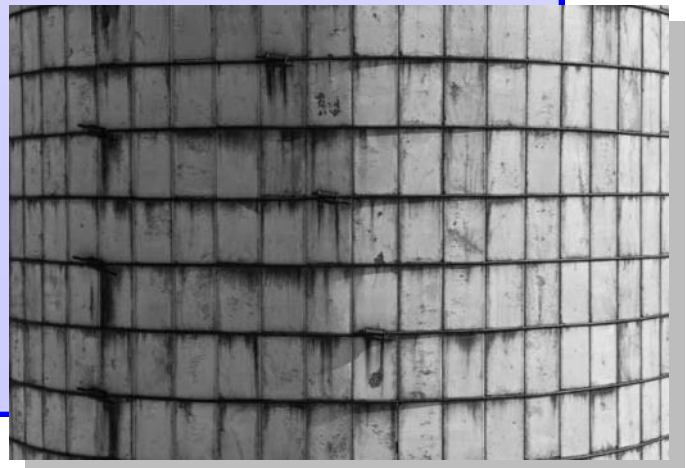
**Adv :**  
**Phil Samblanet**  
"Lyons Saw Whet Owl!"



**Beg/Int: Carol Giffin**  
"Vegas Night"



**Adv:**  
**Larry Loesch**  
"The Silo"



## 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>
Apr 4	February Photos Show	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.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Special Topic</b>	<b>Challenge Topic*</b>	<b>Type</b>
April	Abstract	Wet	Critique
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	Holiday Party and Potluck		

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

Coming in May...

## *PhotoFix Challenge Program*

Our program in May will be an SVPS PhotoFix Challenge to all SVPS members who wish to participate. There will be four photos available for download at our website go-svps.org under the tab Contests/Events called "PhotoFix Challenge 2016". Any of these can be edited by each SVPS member using any software you choose. We are looking for either creative interpretation or basic edits to clean up and add punch to the images. Be prepared at the program in May to describe the edits you performed.

You may submit one or two images. The image must be submitted on or before Thursday, April 28, in the usual format of not more than 2048 pixels in either dimension.

To download each of the four photos, click on its thumbnail to show it in the right column. Then right click (preferred) on the photo and select 'Copy' (to paste it into your photo editor) or 'Save Picture As...' (to store it in a previously defined folder). Each photo is 2048 pixels in the larger dimension. To reshuffle the central thumbnail column on this screen, select 'Photo Fix Challenge' in the left column. Please use the following naming conventions for file submissions: [Classification]P[number]-[Name]-[Unique Title].jpg where

Classification is 1 for Beginner/Intermediate,  
2 for Advanced

Number = 1 for The castle by the mountain  
= 2 for The tall inside of the cathedral  
= 3 for The kid jumping  
= 4 for The lady on the beach

Name is your name

Unique Title is a unique title to identify your work

Example: 2P1-Ansel Adams-Homeland Security in the Middle Ages.jpg

Name and photo title should be no more than 45 characters. DO NOT use underscore or special characters (except dash). **Please email images to Cliff DeJong at Cliff-DeJong@gmail.com after the May Newsletter is received.** Note that this is a change from the usual submission. Only digital images will be accepted; no prints please.

## *SVPS Field Trips*

Cindy led a discussion on field trips at the March meeting. There is a June trip being organized by Diane Kaiser, detailed on page 9.

In the discussions, the most popular trip was for Colorado Columbine/flowers. Second was night stars in RMNP, and there was lots of interest in waterfalls, particularly Old Fall River Road in RMNP. Cliff DeJong has volunteered to lead a group to RMNP for star and Milky Way photography. Right now, Friday June 3 looks good. However, that is the night before our annual meeting/potluck, and a good alternative date is August 5th, also a Friday.

We need volunteers to lead the other field trips. You do not need to give instruction, just organize car pools and time/location for all to go to.

Field trips are for me, one of the most fun experiences with the club. I have learned a lot from observing how others approach a subject and this has helped my creativity!!

## *April Newsletter-Bits and Pieces*

The Website has been updated: [go.svps.org](http://go.svps.org)

Heads Up!! Our Annual Competition will be held June 4 at the Annual Meeting/Potluck. Categories and submission rules are the same as last year. See [go-svps.org](http://go-svps.org) and look at the 2015 Annual Competition under Contests/Events for a preview. We are generating the 2016 version of this and will send it out to all as soon as it is ready.

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.

Thank you for your patience last month as we dealt with glitches in our computer system. We have purchased a new laptop and these issues should be in the past. We will show the February photos (missed due to weather) to open our April meeting.

- **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**

### *INKJET PAPERS MATTER*

I exhibit quite a few of my photographs and print out all of my own work – except for my larger pieces which I leave in the hands of trusty DuraPlaq (yeap, that was a shameless plug). I have learned there is quite a bit of difference in printing papers – and a lot of it has to do with the very base white of the paper, as well as the brightness of the paper. Inexpensive big-box office supply store papers are well, inexpensive, but you pay the price in quality – the whites tend to be on the off-white side and the colors tend to print flat.

A step up are the papers made by your printing company...in my case Epson. They give a nice range of paper quality from proof prints to exhibition quality and are my stand-by solution.

But here is my secret – I have discovered a fantastic line of papers that are unparalleled to any papers I have ever seen or utilized. Legion Paper makes a line of “Moab” papers which defy description. Their Somerset Museum Rag 300 paper is coated to produce rich blacks and vibrant colors. I print my exhibit pieces on their Slickrock Metallic Pearl 260 Paper which offers a high gloss finish and jaw-dropping colors...and I mean jaw-dropping. My latest work is called “Spaghetti Western” and is based on super-saturated colors (pushing the reds and oranges to the extreme!) and I can say that this is the only paper, on a reflective surface, that emulates the backlit vibrancy of my LED monitor...stunning actually. You can actually order sample box of all of their papers on Amazon and I encourage you to do so. (BTW – For my digital flower watercolor prints I LOVE their Moenkopi Unryu 55 paper featuring long sinewy fibers which are added to the mulberry wet layer of the paper.)

So go forth, and print! (And know that I just shared one of secrets to producing a great print that I swore I would take to my grave.)

**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](http://www.rmconservancy.org)>

### *Compass Bank Display*

To display framed photos at Compass Bank, please contact **John Roper** at <[jmroper@prodigy.net](mailto: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](http://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>

