

NVPS NEWSLETTER

GREAT PEOPLE and GREAT IMAGES SINCE 1998



June 2024 Issue

This month's meeting

June 24: Annual Business Meeting

The June 24 meeting is the annual business meeting and election of new officers and includes *Minute-to-Spin-It* presentations of members' five favorite

images as well as any taken at the annual picnic held at Fuller Park June 8. In addition, the best image *from the picnic* will be eligible for a prize.



As usual, all images for *Minute-to-Spin-It* should be sent to the photo critique site no later than the Saturday before the meeting at:

NVPS.Photo.Critique@gmail.com

For additional information, visit the image submission guidelines page at the end of the newsletter.

NVPS meetings are on the fourth Monday of each month starting at 7:00 pm in the Oak Room at the Napa Senior Center, 1500 Jefferson, Napa.

A word from the president

This month's meeting is our annual business meeting. Topics will include a review of the year, the annual budget, and election of officers. We still have vacancies, so if you are considering helping our club out, this is a great opportunity to get your feet wet. After the business portion of the meeting, we will do our *Minute-to-Spin-It*. Submit five photos to the critique email as set forth above, and you will be given a minute to discuss your photos. Make sure you put in the subject line *Minute-to-Spin-It* photos. If you attended the NVPS Picnic and you took photos, send your two best photos to the critique email address and put in the subject line *Picnic Photos*. At the end of the meeting, we will review the picnic photos and then vote on the best photo. The winner will get a small prize.

There is a series on the Nation Geographic channel called Photographer. It profiles six photographers and, while there is not a lot of technical details, it does a very good job of showing their creative processes. I've watched the first two episodes, and it's excellent. Although it's on the National Geographic channel, I've been watching it on Hulu. Here is a link to the show's description:

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt29538806/?ref_=fn_al_tt_14

Philip Odegard is the new Master Communicator for the NVPS. Some members said they aren't getting the emails. Please check your spam or junk folders just in case.

Philip Venable, President

Email: philven@pacbell.net

Phone: 707-689-3092

Field trips and workshops

Frames

Frames is an online community of top photographers, which offers a wealth of information on photography. Although it costs to join, its podcasts are free; and there are plenty of them. They are interviews of some of the best photographers, many from other countries. Listening to several of the podcasts is the equivalent of a good workshop.

Scott Olsen is the interviewer, himself a leading photographer. He's quite a good interviewer. A recent interview with Charles Traub, for example, is the equivalent of a class at Yale University, Columbia College, or another of the leading photography schools.

The only consistency in the interviews is the inconsistency of the photographers. You will hear

that almost everyone uses a different camera. Some use multiple lenses. Many use only one lens. Some take a whole day to take a great portrait. Some take an hour to take a great portrait. The conversation spans from personal histories to special techniques to the philosophy of aesthetics.

High quality. Free. Build your own workshop.

<https://read.frames.com>

FRAMES
PHOTOGRAPHY PODCAST



KelbyOne

I, for one, find it hard to stay awake in online courses. But Scott Kelby offers a variety of streaming courses that keep one's attention from start to finish. He's a very down-to-earth instructor and very informative. I can't vouch for all the other instructors at KelbyOne, as I haven't yet taken their courses. But you won't regret taking a course from Scott.

<https://kelbyone.com>



Build your own workshop by taking a course or two.

Events

Irving Penn

At the de Young Museum through July 21 you can see a seven-decade 176-photograph exhibit of the photographer Irving Penn. The exhibit includes photos of San Francisco's 1967 Summer of Love.



<https://www.famsf.org/>

County Fairs

Want to enter your photos in a county fair photo contest? Check out the following counties to determine whether they have a photo contest and how to apply.

Napa County August 8-11



<https://napafair.org/>



Solano County July 13-16



<https://scfair.org/2024-solano-county-fair/>



Sonoma County August 1-11



<https://sonomacountyfair.com/>



Marin County July 3-7



<https://marinfair.org/>

If you happen to be in Colorado, bring your cowboy hat and join me at:

Archuleta County Fair August 1-4



<https://www.archuletacountyfair.com/>

Articles

Does It Make a Difference? ©Joseph T Sinclair

Does a different angle of attack make a difference? That is, when you shoot a photo from a different angle, does it take a different photo? In the extreme, I think we can all agree that it does take a different photo. But what if the angle is only slightly different from normal practice?

This idea invites experimentation. I suspect that we're all guilty of the duality of photography. Are not most shots taken at either eye level or tripod level? That is, as we stand, we raise a camera to our eye to take a shot. When we use a tripod, we typically set it at a level that makes it easy to comfortably use the view finder to take a shot. And what percentage of our shots are taken this way? 20%? 40%? 60%? 80%? It's a significant percentage. Is photography nothing but an ode to comfort? Maybe a slightly different angle of attack is worth the trouble?

- How about this? Use a walking stick that unfolds into a stool. Then sit down to take all your photos. I calculate you've just lowered your angle of attack by 14 to 18 inches. And you've still maintained the comfort that all good photographers

deserve. But does it make a significant difference in your photos? That's for you to find out. Experiment. You can buy a walking stick on Amazon. Of course.



- How about this? If you sit down on the ground to take a shot, it usually makes an extreme difference. But then, if you're over 50, you can't get up. Not very practical unless you have a friend, relative, bystander, or hydraulic jack to assist you to your feet.
- How about this? If you carry around a step-stool, you can use it as a walking stick, albeit a heavy and awkward walking stick. Then, on the second step of

the stool, you can raise your angle of attack about 18 inches. Don't use the top step though; you'll fall and break an important part of your body. (Hint: all the parts are important.) This is not a practical idea, and it may be hazardous experimentation.

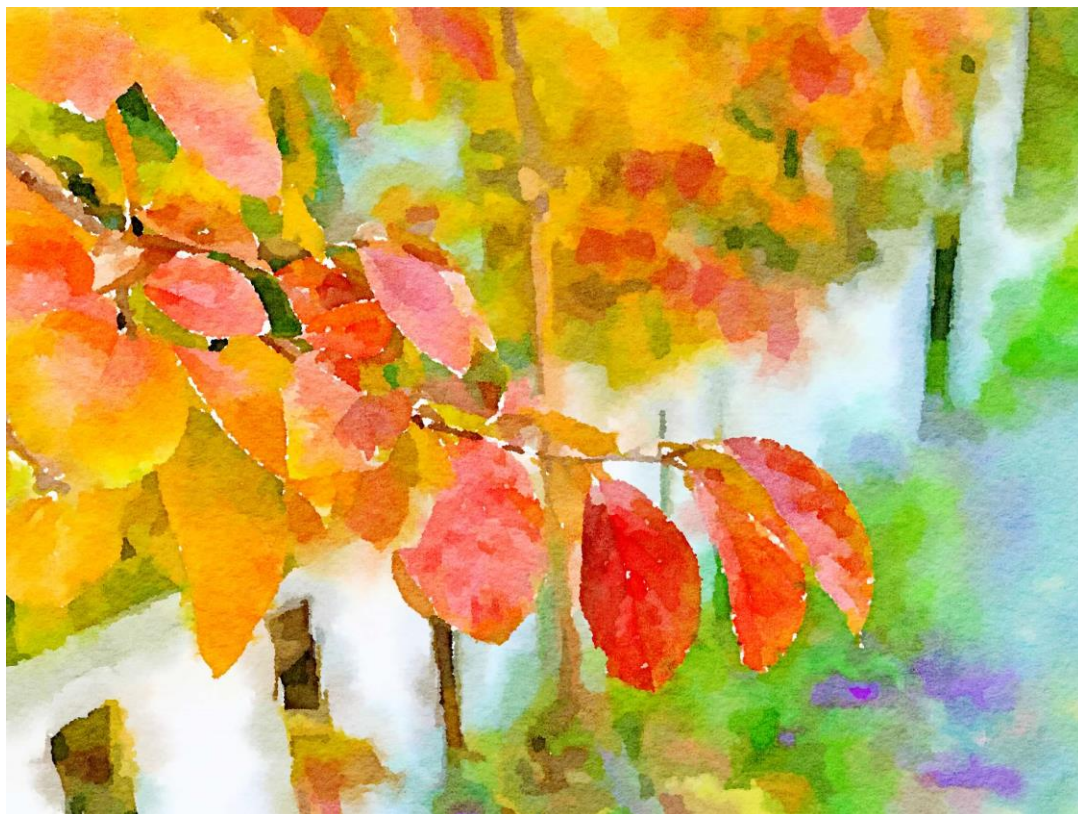
The winner is: the walking stick. Don't leave home without it. You read it here first in your very own NVPS newsletter.

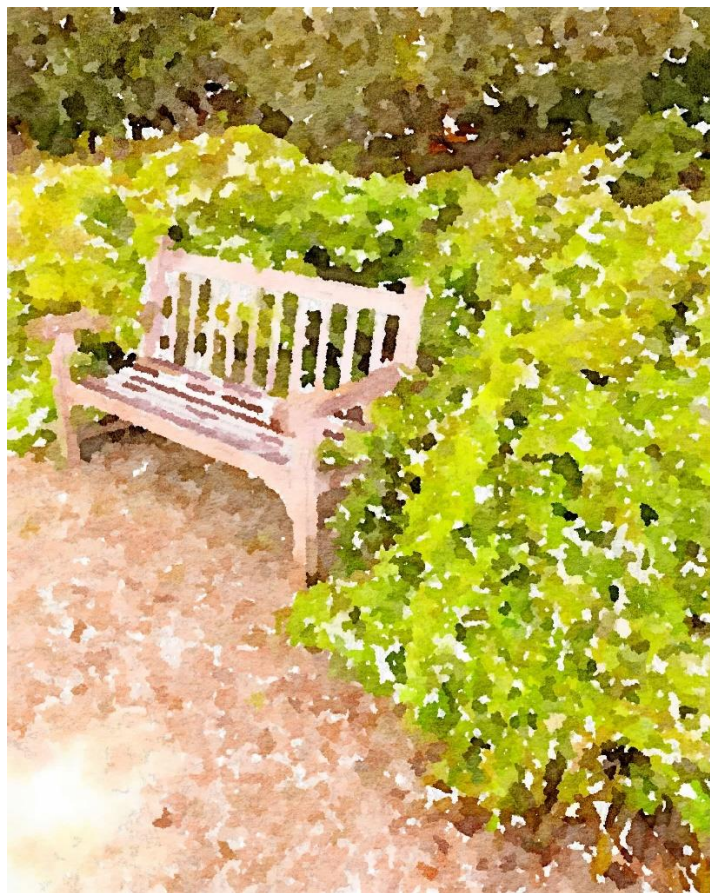
Featured photographer

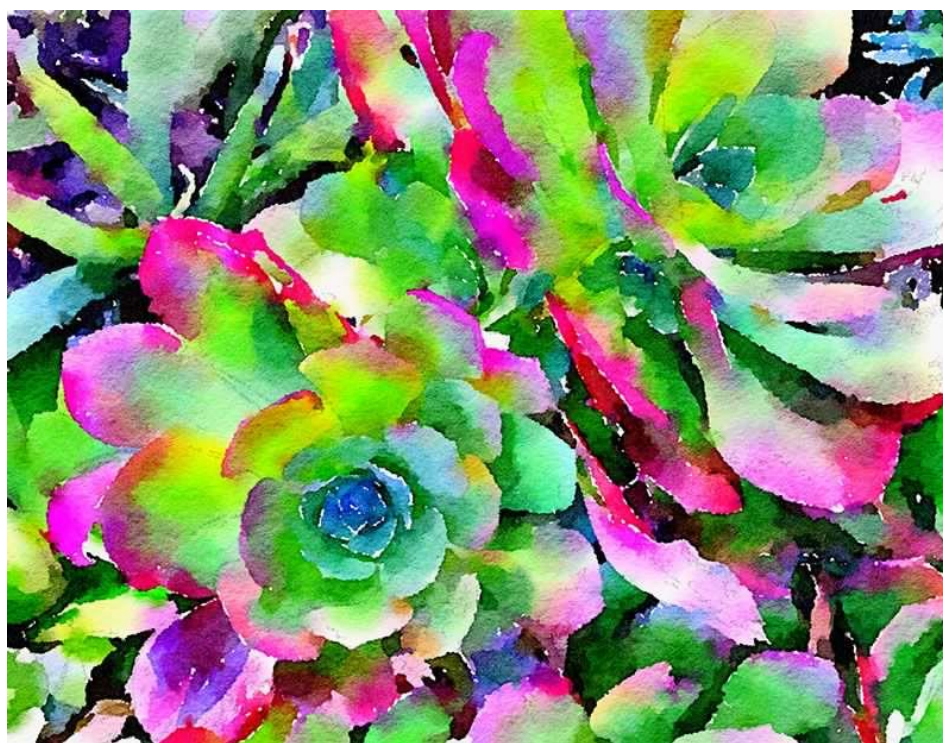
Gary Sampson

As a lifelong professional Ornamental Horticulturist, I have always been captivated by the natural beauty of plants and flowers. As a hobbyist photographer, I naturally include flower photography in my endeavors. I have been influenced by artists such as Monet, Matisse, and Georgia O'Keefe. After taking a course at Napa Valley College on smartphone photography, I found out about various apps and have had fun creating various digital art images using my original photographs with the apps. I send them to Shutterfly and make 5x7 cards to share with people.

I now photograph for my own enjoyment and for family memories.













Officers & staff

Elected Board members

President - Phil Venable

Vice president - Terry Smith

Secretary - George Bartolome

Membership Secretary – Nancy Hernandez

Treasurer - Gary Sampson

Appointed board members & chairs

Member-at-large - Lanny Johnson

Master Communicator - Philip Odegard

Program chair - Mitchell Glotzer

Website manager - Carolyn Younger

Newsletter - Joe Sinclair

Exhibit chair - open

Ongoing-exhibits chair - George Bartolome

Hospitality coordinator - open

Field trips - Irena Miles (Karen Noyes, Ann Seronello,
Geoff Hansen)

Workshops - Phil Venable

Publicity - Zach Berkowitz

Zoom coordinators - Phil Venable
Digital projectionist - Peter Guenther, Phil Venable
Facebook posting - Karen Noyes
Fundraiser chair – open



Head photo: Yellow Desert ©2024 Joseph T. Sinclair. All rights reserved.

Newsletter ©2024 Napa Valley Photographic Society. All rights reserved.

Newsletter Submittal Guidelines

Submittal deadline

The submittal deadline for newsletter text + photos (content) is the third Monday of the month.

Members' photos for the meeting

Members may submit images for the meeting and should be prepared to make a brief verbal explanation. To submit your photos for a meeting, send your images to the regular critique site in the usual format (no more than 2000 pixels on the longest side) no later than the Saturday prior to the monthly meeting. The file name for an image should be:

members first&last name_title or theme_order
number

Examples: John Everest_Harvest Time_01 and John Everest_After the Harvest_02

Send the files to: NVPS.Photo.Critique@gmail.com.
Only photos taken by members accepted.

Newsletter head photo

If you desire to provide a head photo for one issue, submit a JPG 2000 pixels horizontal. The vertical can be between 450 and 1100 pixels. Anything outside these parameters cannot be used. The file name

should be your name plus the title of your photo, the word *head*, and the date:

name_title_head_date

Send the file to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line: NEWSLETTER (in all caps). Only photos taken by members accepted. And photos that have been published before on the NVPS website or in the NVPS newsletter are not eligible.

This month's meeting

Follow the guide for *Articles*.

Field trips & workshops

Announcements of field trips and workshops of interest to members should include all information such as leader + contact info, date, time, meeting place, miles to location, cost, and nature of the photography as well as a general description. These are *participation* events. Announcements can run in two successive issues *before* the event.

Events

This is an announcement of a photo exhibit, contest, or photo op of interest to members or one that includes a member or multiple members. It can run in two successive issues *before* the exhibit.

This category also includes a call for member participants in future photo exhibits or contests with complete information on applying and participating.

If an event is a duplicate of full information elsewhere, it should be a brief announcement with a hyperlink to the information online elsewhere.

Member news

This is a one-time *brief* announcement of a member's *past* achievement, such as an exhibit, a photo experience, a travel-photo experience, a photo learning experience, and the like. Use a hyperlink to indicate where full information is available.

If this is the sole information on a substantial achievement, it can be written like an article with full information; but it shouldn't be a duplicate of full information published elsewhere (use a hyperlink instead).

NVPS administrative news or other news is also appropriate for this category.

Articles

Articles (e.g., magazine-like articles) written by members can be posted in the newsletter for one issue. They will be assumed to be published by permission. They must be relevant to photography, of course.

Articles published by non-members are likely to be copyrighted. See *Copyrights* for the treatment of non-member articles.

Generally, only one article per issue will be published with member-written articles given preference.

For sale, give away, or wanted

Photographic equipment for sale, giveaway, or wanted can be listed here for one newsletter issue. Provide full information about item and full contact information.

Photos for newsletter

Photos submitted for the newsletter should be: no more than 2000 pixels, and no less than 1000 pixels, on the longest side. Logos can be a smaller size. File names should be:

author_title of photo_date

Photos taken by members will be assumed to be published by permission. Photos taken by non-members are likely to be copyright protected. See *Copyrights* for the treatment of non-member photos.

Send the photo file *attached* (not *embedded*) to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line: NEWSLETTER (in all caps). Photos must have an extension that indicates their protocol (e.g., .jpg); that is, Windows compatible. Due to incompatibilities between Apple and Windows, photos that don't conform may be unusable.

Photo captions

If you want captions for you photos, include them in the photo file name.

Submissions

For all information (text) submitted, use a file name that identifies the subject matter and author. Send the file to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line: NEWSLETTER (in all caps).

Subject-line email

Unless you use the subject-line words requested for text or photos, your submission might be lost in the 400 junk emails received each day.

In the email, explain your submission. Example: *This photo goes with my article on shooting wildlife.*

Copyrights

For articles and photos by non-members, NVPS must have written permission for publication. The exception is articles or photos in the public domain; for such articles or photos, the author and source of the public domain archive should be stated.

One exception to copyright protection is the use of copyrighted text or images in teaching, such as an article on photography.

One way to circumvent copyright problems is to use a hyperlink to the article or photo published elsewhere.

Typography

Use italics for emphasis. Use emphasis sparingly. Don't use bold or all-caps. Bold and all-caps are difficult to read. Nonetheless, all-caps are acceptable for acronyms and designations.

Suggestions

Suggestions for the newsletter format or otherwise should be sent to jt@sinclair3.com with the subject-line NEWSLETTER in all caps.

Your editor

Your current newsletter editor is half-deaf with a short-term memory (25 seconds on a good day and getting shorter each month) and lives in Vallejo (doesn't know Napa very well). He receives about 400 emails every day thus requiring NEWSLETTER to be in the subject line of your emails. Although the newsletter editor reserves the right to edit submissions, the newsletter editor's job is to *receive* content (information + photos) for the newsletter, not create it. So, your publish-ready content according to these guidelines will be welcome.